

DEAR FELLOW STOCKHOLDERS,

2025 was a year of meaningful execution. After outlining the key pillars of our growth strategy and long-term initiatives at our Investor Day in March, we built upon that foundation throughout the year. We continued to invest in technology and top-tier talent, enhance our platform and network and capitalize on opportunities in the premium video advertising market. Additionally, we reinstated our dividend program this year and continued our share repurchase program, underscoring confidence in our long-term outlook and commitment to shareholder returns.

While the domestic box office experienced periods of mixed performance in 2025, we saw industry-wide momentum surrounding major franchise releases such as *Minecraft*, *Lilo and Stitch* and *Zootopia 2* which drove strong attendance numbers and campaign activity.

For the full year, we reported revenue of \$243.2 million, delivering year-over-year top-line growth in line with the industry, driven by the strength of our national advertising business as advertisers continued to turn to NCM for our differentiated offerings and unmatched access to hard-to-reach audiences. In our local business, we took deliberate steps to reset the foundation and rebuild toward sustainable growth by investing in leadership and new sales tools and implementing operating discipline. We saw encouraging signs of stabilization and sequential improvement in the second half signaling local as a meaningful long-term growth opportunity for NCM. While adjusted OIBDA growth was muted versus the prior-year period due to market headwinds earlier in the year, our second half results demonstrated strong momentum in the underlying business as we focused on driving advertiser demand and improving inventory utilization.

In 2025, the Company strengthened the NCM platform by enhancing the scale, quality and resilience of our platform through the following initiatives:

>> Deepened relationships with our exhibitor partners, most notably through a new long-term agreement with AMC that fortifies the value of our advertising inventory across AMC theatres.

>> Enhanced our network appeal to high-end advertisers and expanded our industry-leading reach with the acquisition of **Spotlight Cinema Networks**, the only U.S. cinema advertising company dedicated to art house, luxury and dine-in exhibitors.

>> Invested in our programmatic and self-serve offerings with the addition of new **Supply Side Platform** partnerships to expand access to our programmatic inventory and relaunched, our AI-enabled self-serve platform which continued to gain traction among small and mid-sized advertisers and national brands seeking localized execution.

>> Secured a \$45.0 million senior secured revolving credit facility expected to result in a meaningful reduction of the Company's overall interest expense and provide excess liquidity through 2028.

2025 reinforced the enduring appeal of the theatrical experience and validated our long-term belief in the resilience of cinema advertising. While the year had its challenges, we continued to invest in our platform to ensure NCM is positioned to succeed in the years ahead. The box office is now more than two years removed from pandemic-era disruptions and industry strikes, and the upcoming slate is packed with highly anticipated titles including *The Super Mario Galaxy Movie*, *The Odyssey* and *Avengers: Doomsday* that are already generating strong advertiser demand. We believe our targeted investments position NCM to capture growth in the year ahead and generate long-term value for our shareholders.

Thank you to our shareholders, exhibitor partners, advertisers, and especially our employees. Your dedication and creativity continue to power our success and advance the future of cinema advertising.

Sincerely,

Thomas F. Lesinski
Chief Executive Officer

David E. Glazek
Chairman





BY THE NUMBERS



MOVIEGOING

87M

67% of A18-49 went to the movies in 2025¹

Over 35M

consumers attended opening weekend of *Lilo & Stitch* (biggest Box Office of the year)²

20

films exceeded \$100M at the domestic box office³

~800M

Movie tickets purchased⁴



NCM PLATFORM

17,500+

Screens⁵

1,350+

Theaters⁵

High Value Audience

50% Families | 62% Multicultural⁶

¹Sources: Box Office Mojo, Posttrak Comscore, , Nielsen Universe Estimates.
²ComScore, Box Office Mojo w/o 5/23, all titles. ³Box Office Mojo (1/1/25-12/31/25).
⁴Box Office Mojo, 2025. ⁵NCM Internal. ⁶Source: Comcore Posttrak Data, 2025.



BY THE NUMBERS



NCMX SUCCESS METRICS

Cinema is #1 for attention
outperforming social and digital platforms by 6-16x⁷

3x higher
NCM moviegoer spend vs general population⁸

65%
lift in brand awareness⁹

Up to 50%
lift in foot traffic following an NCM big screen campaign⁹



FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

50%
of 2025 revenue came from Travel, Retail, Wireless, Auto and Entertainment categories¹⁰

65
new clients spent \$100K+¹⁰

Revenue per attendee
up 2% vs 2024¹⁰



⁷NCM/Lumen Attention Study (October 2023). ⁸Affinity Solutions Spend Data 2025. ⁹NCM Intercept Norms 2017-2024 (407 advertisers, All Segments); eWorks, MarketForce, SeeLevel HX, Kochava, Foursquare, InMarket Foot Traffic analyses 2022-2025. ¹⁰NCM Internal Data, 2024.

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-K

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended January 1, 2026

or

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from _____ to _____
Commission file number: 001-33296

NATIONAL CINEMEDIA, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

20-5665602
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

6300 S. Syracuse Way, Suite 300
(Address of principal executive offices)

Centennial Colorado

80111
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (303) 792-3600

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Trading symbol	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share	NCMI	The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes No

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically every Interactive Data File required to be submitted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit such files). Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company" and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Smaller reporting company	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non-accelerated filer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Emerging growth company	<input type="checkbox"/>
Accelerated filer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition method for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has filed a report on and attestation to its management's assessment of the effectiveness of its internal control over financial reporting under Section 404(b) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act (15 U.S.C. 7262(b)) by the registered public accounting firm that prepared or issued its audit report.

If securities are registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act, indicate by check mark whether the financial statements of the registrant included in the filing reflect the correction of an error to previously issued financial statements.

Indicate by check mark whether any of those error corrections are restatements that required a recovery analysis of incentive-based compensation received by any of the registrant's executive officers during the relevant recovery period pursuant to §240.10D-1(b).

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act). Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has filed all documents and reports required to be filed by Section 12, 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 subsequent to the distribution of securities under a plan confirmed by a court. Yes No

Based on the closing sales price on June 26, 2025, the aggregate market value of the voting and non-voting common stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant was \$322,262,565.

As of February 20, 2026, 93,143,847 shares of the registrant's common stock (including unvested restricted stock), par value of \$0.01 per share, were outstanding.

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Certain Definitions

In this document, unless the context otherwise requires:

- “NCM, Inc.,” “NCM,” “the Company,” “we,” “us” or “our” refer to National CineMedia, Inc., a Delaware corporation, and its consolidated subsidiary National CineMedia, LLC.
- “NCM LLC” refers to National CineMedia, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, the current operating company for our business, which NCM, Inc. acquired an interest in, and became a member and the sole manager of, upon completion of our initial public offering, or “IPO,” which closed on February 13, 2007.
- “ESAs” refers to the amended and restated exhibitor services agreements entered into by NCM LLC with each of NCM LLC’s original founding members (AMC, Cinemark and Regal) upon completion of the IPO, which were further amended and restated on December 26, 2013 in connection with the sale of the Fathom Events business and, in the case of the ESAs with Cinemark and Regal, were further amended on September 17, 2019 (the “2019 ESA Amendments”) to extend the terms of the ESAs and modify the program distributed by NCM LLC through its DCN for exhibition in Cinemark and Regal theaters. On July 14, 2023, Regal terminated their ESA with NCM LLC. On April 17, 2025, AMC amended their ESA with NCM, LLC by entering into the Second Amended and Restated Exhibitor Services Agreement (the “2025 AMC Agreement”).
- “AMC” refers to AMC Entertainment Holdings, Inc. and its subsidiaries, National Cinema Network, Inc., which contributed assets used in the operations of NCM LLC and formed NCM LLC in March 2005, AMC ShowPlace Theatres, Inc., AMC Starplex, LLC, American Multi-Cinema, Inc., Muvico, LLC, and the other AMC parties to the ESA with NCM LLC.
- “Cinemark” refers to Cinemark Holdings, Inc. and its subsidiaries, Cinemark Media, Inc., which joined NCM LLC in July 2005, and Cinemark USA, Inc., which is a party to an ESA with NCM LLC.
- “Regal” refers to Cineworld Group plc, Regal Entertainment Group and its subsidiaries, Regal CineMedia Corporation, which contributed assets used in the operations of NCM LLC, Regal CineMedia Holdings, LLC, which formed NCM LLC in March 2005, and Regal Cinemas, Inc., which was a party to an ESA with NCM LLC until July 14, 2023, when Regal terminated their ESA. On July 14, 2023, Regal entered into a network affiliate agreement with NCM LLC.
- “ESA Parties” refers to AMC and Cinemark. It additionally refers to Regal, for activity prior to July 14, 2023.
- “Network affiliates” refers to certain third-party theater circuits with which NCM LLC has long-term network affiliate agreements, including with Regal after July 14, 2023.
- “Spotlight” refers to Spotlight Cinema Networks, LLC and its subsidiary Storming Images North America, LLC, a U.S. cinema advertising company dedicated to serving art house, luxury and dine-in exhibitors, which was acquired by NCM LLC on November 14, 2025. Spotlight is fully consolidated within NCM LLC and NCM, Inc. and included within references to “the Company”.
- “Adjusted OIBDA” refers to a non-GAAP financial measure, which management defines as operating income before depreciation and amortization expense adjusted to also exclude non-cash share-based payment costs, impairment of long-lived assets, workforce reorganization costs, termination of the Regal ESA, system optimization costs, satellite transitions costs, Spotlight acquisition and transition related costs and advisor fees related to involvement in the Cineworld Proceeding and Chapter 11 Case (each as defined herein).
- “Adjusted OIBDA margin” is a non-GAAP financial measure calculated by dividing Adjusted OIBDA by total revenue.
- “LEN” refers to NCM LLC’s Lobby Entertainment Network.
- “CPM” is a basis for which advertising is sold by the cost per thousand viewers.
- “DCN” refers to NCM LLC’s Digital Content Network.
- “TRA” refers to the tax receivable agreement entered into by NCM, Inc. and the ESA Parties. Only Cinemark remains a party to the TRA following Regal's termination in July 14, 2023 and AMC's termination on April 17, 2025 as part of a separate termination agreement entered into concurrently with the 2025 AMC Agreement (the “AMC Termination Agreement”).

Market Information

Information regarding market share, market position and industry data pertaining to our business contained in this report consists of estimates based on data and reports compiled by industry professional organizations (including, but not limited to, the Motion Picture Association of America and the National Association of Theatre Owners) and analysts and our knowledge of our revenues and markets. Designated Market Area® is a registered trademark of Nielsen Media Research, Inc. (“Nielsen”). We take responsibility for compiling and extracting, but have not independently verified, market and industry data provided by third parties, or by industry or general publications, and take no further responsibility for such data. Similarly, while we believe our internal data is reliable, our data has not been verified by any independent sources, and we cannot assure you as to their accuracy.

Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

In addition to historical information, some of the information in this Form 10-K includes “forward-looking statements.” All statements other than statements of historical facts included in this Form 10-K, including, without limitation, certain statements under “Business,” “Risk Factors” and “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations,” may constitute forward-looking statements. In some cases, you can identify these “forward-looking statements” by the specific words, including but not limited to “may,” “will,” “can,” “should,” “expects,” “forecasts,” “projects,” “intends,” “plans,” “anticipates,” “believes,” “estimates,” “predicts,” “potential” or “continue” or the negative of those words and other comparable words. These forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties, assumptions and other factors, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Declines in theater attendance, including as a result of pandemics, epidemics, disease outbreaks, impacts to film production, reductions in the number of theaters or general economic impacts can disrupt our business and the business of our ESA Parties and network affiliates;
- Changes in theater patron behavior could result in declines in viewership of The *Noovie*® Show;
- Changes to the ESAs or network affiliate agreements and the relationships with NCM LLC’s ESA Parties and network affiliates and NCM LLC’s ability to enforce the provisions contained in the ESAs or network affiliate agreements;
- We may not be successful in increasing the number of theaters in which NCM LLC has the right to display Post-Showtime Inventory;
- Impacts to the ESAs due to bankruptcy of or lack of support from the ESA Parties;
- Potential failures or disruptions in our technology systems or the failure to adequately protect our systems, data or property from threats;
- Our plans for developing additional digital or digital out-of-home revenue opportunities may not be implemented and may not be achieved;
- Failure to effectively manage change to our strategy or continue our growth, including the benefits and synergies of any acquisitions or investments;
- Changes in regulation and potential liability arising out of the gathering and use of user information collected through data or digital services;
- Competition within the overall advertising industry;
- Failure to continue to upgrade our technology and that of our advertising network;
- Changes in economic conditions;
- We may not be able to grow our advertising revenue in line with the growth of our contractual costs;
- The potential loss of any major advertising client, including due to the uncertainty or perception of uncertainty in the industry;
- Potential inability to retain or replace our senior management;
- The effects of government regulation on ESA Party and network affiliate growth;
- Possible infringement of our technology on intellectual property rights owned by others;
- Failure to protect or enforce our intellectual property rights;

- We are a holding company with no operations of our own, and we depend on distributions and payments under the NCM LLC operating and management services agreements from NCM LLC to meet our ongoing obligations and to pay cash dividends on our common stock;
- NCM LLC's other member, their affiliates or our largest stockholder may have interests that differ from those of us or our public stockholders and they may be able to influence our affairs, compete with us or benefit from corporate opportunities that might otherwise be available to us;
- Our certificate of incorporation contains anti-takeover protections that may discourage a strategic transaction;
- Future issuance of membership units or preferred stock could dilute the interest of our common stockholders;
- Determination that any amount of our tax benefits under the TRA should not have been available;
- The effect on our stock price from the substantial number of our shares eligible for sale; and
- Other factors described under "Risk Factors" or elsewhere in this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

This list of factors that may affect future performance and the accuracy of forward-looking statements are illustrative and not exhaustive. Our actual results, performance or achievements could differ materially from those indicated in these statements as a result of additional factors as more fully discussed in the section titled "Risk Factors," and elsewhere in this Annual Report on Form 10-K. Given these uncertainties, readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on our forward-looking statements.

All subsequent written and oral forward-looking statements attributable to us or to persons acting on our behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by these cautionary statements. We disclaim any intention or obligation to update publicly any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as may be required under applicable securities laws.

PART I

Item 1. Business

The Company

National CineMedia is the largest cinema advertising platform in the U.S. With unparalleled reach and scale, NCM connects brands to sought-after young, diverse audiences through the power of movies and pop culture. A premium video, full-funnel marketing solution for advertisers, NCM enhances advertisers' ability to measure and drive results. NCM's *Noovie*® Show is presented exclusively in 41 leading national and regional theater circuits including all three national chains, AMC, Cinemark and Regal. NCM's cinema advertising platform consists of more than 17,000 screens in over 1,300 theaters in 184 Designated Market Areas® ("DMA[®]"), including all of the top 50. In November of 2025, NCM extended its reach by acquiring Spotlight and the Spotlight Cinema Network, a U.S. cinema advertising company dedicated to serving art house, luxury and dine-in exhibitors. Spotlight and the Spotlight Cinema Network presents the *CineLife*® Show exclusively in 108 leading national and regional theater circuits consisting of more than 1,200 screens in over 200 theaters.

We derive revenue primarily from selling advertising to national, regional and local businesses through The *Noovie* Show and the *CineLife* Show, our cinema advertising and entertainment shows seen on movie screens across the U.S. Additionally, we generate revenue from the Lobby Entertainment Network or LEN, a series of strategically-placed screens located in movie theater lobbies, as well as other promotional opportunities in theater lobbies. Beyond the theater, we extend our advertising reach through our *NCMx*™ suite of products, leveraging omnichannel retargeting across our owned digital properties, partnerships with third-party digital publishers and platforms, CTV and a variety of complementary out-of-home venues, such as convenience stores and college campuses, to engage entertainment audiences beyond the theater.

The Company has long-term ESAs with the ESA Parties and multi-year agreements with our network affiliates, which grant the Company exclusive rights in their respective theaters to sell advertising, subject to limited exceptions. The weighted average remaining term of the ESAs with the ESA Parties is approximately 15.6 years as of January 1, 2026. The network affiliate agreements within NCM's legacy network expire at various dates between March 31, 2026 and July 13, 2033, with our largest affiliate agreement expiring on July 13, 2033. The weighted average remaining term of the ESAs and the network affiliate agreements of the NCM network is 11.8 years as of January 1, 2026.

Organization

NCM, Inc., a Delaware corporation, was organized on October 5, 2006 and began operations on February 13, 2007 upon completion of its IPO. NCM, Inc. is a holding company that manages its consolidated subsidiary, NCM LLC. NCM, Inc. has no business operations or material assets other than its cash and cash equivalents and ownership interest of 100.0% of the common membership units in NCM LLC as of January 1, 2026. In accordance with the Common Unit Adjustment Agreement, Cinemark has the right to potentially receive common membership units in NCM LLC in the future. Following the AMC Termination Agreement, AMC will no longer have the right to receive NCM LLC membership units as part of the Common Unit Adjustment Agreement. As of January 1, 2026, AMC and Cinemark have no ownership interest in NCM LLC.

NCM, Inc.'s primary source of cash flow from operations is distributions from NCM LLC pursuant to the NCM LLC Operating Agreement. NCM, Inc. also receives management fees pursuant to a management services agreement with NCM LLC.

Recent Developments

Spotlight—On November 14, 2025, the Company acquired Spotlight, the only U.S. cinema advertising company dedicated to serving art house, luxury and dine-in exhibitors. The acquisition of Spotlight adds high-scale luxury screens and exhibitors that offer unique and engaging customer experiences to our platform, unlocking new advertising and preshow entertainment inventory across theaters nationwide. Spotlight's exhibitor partners, including Cinépolis Luxury Cinema, Landmark Theatres, Flix Brewhouse and LOOK Dine-In Cinemas, complement NCM's national theater network and extend NCM's reach among culturally engaged premium audiences. The addition of Spotlight's footprint increases NCM's national market share by more than 6.0% and expands its theater presence by approximately 30.0% in the critical New York and Los Angeles markets. The Company paid \$8.2 million of purchase consideration to acquire 100.0% of the ownership of Spotlight. Spotlight was consolidated within the Company's financial statements for the period of November 15, 2025 through January 1, 2026. Refer to Footnote 5—*Business Combinations* for more information regarding the acquisition and consolidation of Spotlight.

AMC Advertising Agreement—On April 17, 2025, the Company and AMC, entered into the Second Amended and Restated Exhibitor Services Agreement (the "2025 AMC Agreement") and a separate termination agreement (the "AMC Termination Agreement") by and among NCM LLC, NCM, Inc. and AMC. The 2025 AMC Agreement extends the term of the ESA by five years, more closely aligns the program distributed by NCM LLC in AMC theaters to the predominant pre-feature program show structure in the rest of NCM LLC's advertising network and adjusts the consideration paid by NCM

LLC. The AMC Termination Agreement waives AMC's rights under certain agreements entered into at the time of the IPO. The agreements were accounted for in accordance with the lease modification guidance within ASC 842—Leases as the amended ESA contains a short-term operating lease of AMC's screens. The agreements were considered combined as they were entered into contemporaneously by the same parties. As a result of the agreements, in the quarter ended June 26, 2025, NCM LLC released \$21.6 million of the 'Payable under the TRA' and reversed the receivable of \$10.6 million from AMC, related to unpaid integration payments, and the receivable under the Common Unit Adjustment Agreement within 'Prepaid expenses and other assets' on the Company's unaudited Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet. NCM will no longer have an obligation to make TRA payments to AMC, provide common units as a part of the Common Unit Adjustment Agreement or distribute NCM LLC's available cash to AMC and the Company received the benefits of the revised ESA, including enhancements related to the pre-feature show structure and the exclusive right to advertise in AMC's theaters. The net impact of these reversals was recorded to the 'Intangible Assets, net of amortization' as AMC's forfeiture of this net payable was considered akin to a lease incentive. The reduction in the intangible asset for the ESAs and the extension of the term of the ESA will result in reduced amortization expense, as it is considered akin to lease expense, for the remainder of the contract term. Refer to Note 6—*Intangible Assets*, Note 7—*Income Taxes*, and Note 13—*Commitments and Contingencies* and the Company's Form 8-K filed with the SEC on April 23, 2025 for additional detail surrounding these agreements.

Debt Agreement—On January 24, 2025, NCM LLC entered into a Loan and Security Agreement with U.S. Bank National Association, as lender. The agreement provides for a \$45.0 million senior secured revolving credit facility (the "2025 Credit Facility") that matures on January 24, 2028. In connection with entering into the 2025 Credit Facility, NCM LLC repaid in full the \$10.0 million balance outstanding as of December 26, 2024, terminated all commitments under its prior Loan, Security and Guarantee Agreement (the "Revolving Credit Facility 2023"), dated August 7, 2023, with CIT Northbridge Credit LLC, as agent, and paid a prepayment fee equal to 1.0% of the total commitment. The 2025 Credit Facility has reduced the Company's overall interest expense, extended the maturity date to 2028 and is a cash flow-based revolving loan compared to the asset-based revolving loan of the 2023 Revolving Credit Facility. As of January 1, 2026, NCM LLC has \$12.0 million outstanding under the 2025 Credit Facility. Borrowings under the 2025 Credit Facility may be used for, among other things, working capital and other general corporate purposes of the Company and bear interest at a floating rate equal to term SOFR (subject to a floor of zero) plus an applicable margin of 2.00%, which is subject to increase by an additional 2.00% upon the occurrence of an event of default.

Reverse Stock Split—On August 3, 2023, the Company effected a one-for-ten (1:10) reverse stock split of its common stock, par value \$0.01 per share. The reverse stock split reduced the number of outstanding shares of the Company's common stock from 174,112,385 shares as of August 3, 2023, to 17,411,323 shares outstanding post-split. After the cancellation of Regal's shares on August 7, 2023, there were 13,343,065 shares outstanding. The primary purpose of the reverse stock split was to comply with the Company's obligations under the NCMI 9019 Settlement discussed under "Chapter 11 Proceedings" below, as well as to increase the per share market price of the Company's common stock in an effort to maintain compliance with applicable Nasdaq continued listing standards.

Share Repurchase Program—On March 18, 2024, the Board of Directors of the Company approved a stock repurchase program under which the Company is authorized to use assets of the Company to repurchase up to \$100.0 million of shares of the Company's Common Stock, exclusive of any fees, commissions or other expenses related to such repurchases, from time to time over a period of three years. Shares may be repurchased under the program through open market purchases, block trades, or accelerated or other structured share repurchase programs. During the year ended January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, 4.1 million and 2.5 million shares were repurchased on the open market, respectively. In accordance with ASC 505—*Equity*, the Company elected to retire the shares. Upon the retirement of these shares, the excess over par value paid, inclusive of direct costs, of \$22.3 million and \$13.4 million was recorded as a reduction to retained earnings for the year ended January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, respectively. As of January 1, 2026, 6.6 million shares have been repurchased on the open market since the program's inception.

Regal Advertising Agreement—On September 7, 2022, Cineworld Group plc, the parent company of Regal, and certain of its subsidiaries, including Regal, Regal Cinemas, Inc., formerly a party to an ESA with NCM LLC, and Regal CineMedia Holdings, LLC, formerly a party to other agreements with NCM LLC and the Company, filed petitions for reorganization under Chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code in the Southern District of Texas. In connection with their Chapter 11 process, Regal filed a motion to reject the ESA and NCM LLC filed an adversary proceeding against Regal. On June 3, 2023, following extensive negotiations, NCM LLC, entered into a Network Affiliate Transaction Agreement (the "Regal Advertising Agreement") with Regal. The Regal Advertising Agreement became effective on July 14, 2023. Pursuant to a separate termination agreement (the "Regal Termination Agreement"), effective on July 14, 2023, Regal rejected and terminated its ESA. Additionally Regal and Regal's affiliates' waived all rights and interests as to the TRA, the Common Unit Adjustment Agreement, the Software License Agreement, the Director Designation Agreement, the Registration Rights Agreement and all the other joint venture agreements described in the NCM LLC Operating Agreement and the Company and NCM LLC, and Regal and Regal's affiliates waived and released claims against the other party. Regal also agreed to support NCM LLC's Plan (as defined under "Chapter 11 Proceedings" below) and surrendered all shares of NCM, Inc.

common stock upon the Effective Date. In connection with the Regal Advertising Agreement, NCM LLC and Regal also agreed to dismiss with prejudice the ongoing litigation between the parties related to NCM LLC’s request to enforce certain provisions of the ESA, including the exclusivity provision. As of July 14, 2023, Regal is no longer an ESA Party of NCM, Inc. or NCM LLC and is presented within network affiliate balances and metrics subsequent to July 14, 2023.

Chapter 11 Proceedings

Chapter 11 Proceedings Timeline

April 11, 2023	○	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NCM LLC files voluntary petition for reorganization under Chapter 11 NCM LLC enters into the Restructuring Support Agreement NCM LLC is deconsolidated from the consolidated financial statements
May 12, 2023	○	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disclosure Statement filed by NCM LLC
June 25, 2023	○	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan of reorganization filed by NCM LLC
June 27, 2023	○	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bankruptcy Court approves Disclosure Statement and Plan
August 7, 2023	○	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NCM LLC emerges from Bankruptcy Plan is effective NCM LLC is reconsolidated into the consolidated financials

On April 11, 2023, NCM LLC filed a voluntary petition for reorganization (“Chapter 11 Case”) with a prearranged Chapter 11 plan under Chapter 11 of Title 11 of the United States Code (the “Bankruptcy Code”) in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas (the “Bankruptcy Court”).

On April 11, 2023, NCM, Inc. also entered into a restructuring support agreement (the “Restructuring Support Agreement”) with NCM LLC and certain of NCM LLC’s (a) prepetition lenders under (i) the Term Loan Credit Agreement, dated as of June 18, 2018 among NCM LLC as borrower, JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. (“JPM”) in its capacity as administrative agent, and the lenders party thereto (as amended, supplemented or otherwise modified from time to time, the “Credit Agreement”); (ii) the Revolving Credit Agreement, dated as of June 20, 2018 among NCM LLC as borrower, JPM in its capacity as administrative agent, and the lenders party thereto (as amended, supplemented or otherwise modified from time to time, the “Revolving Credit Agreement 2018”); (iii) the Revolving Credit Agreement dated as of January 5, 2022 among NCM LLC as borrower, JPM in its capacity as administrative agent, and the lenders party thereto (as amended, supplemented or otherwise modified from time to time, the “Revolving Credit Agreement 2022”); and (b) prepetition noteholders under (i) the Secured Notes Indenture dated as of October 8, 2019 and Computershare Trust Company, National Association (“Computershare”) in its capacity as indenture trustee for NCM LLC’s 5.875% Senior Secured Notes due 2028 (as amended, supplemented or otherwise modified from time to time, the “Secured Notes Indenture” and together with the Term Loan Credit Agreement, Revolving Credit Facility 2018, and Revolving Credit Agreement 2022, the “Prepetition Secured Debt Documents”) and (ii) the Unsecured Notes Indenture dated as of August 19, 2016 with Computershare in its capacity as indenture trustee for NCM LLC’s 5.750% Senior Unsecured Notes due 2026 (as amended, supplemented or otherwise modified from time to time, the “Unsecured Notes Indenture”). The parties to the Restructuring Support Agreement held, in the aggregate, more than two-thirds of all claims arising under the Prepetition Secured Debt Documents.

In connection with the Restructuring Support Agreement, the Company, NCM LLC, and lender parties agreed to a settlement, the “NCMI 9019 Settlement,” pursuant to which, the Company agreed to (i) affirm its obligations under NCM LLC and NCM, Inc.’s joint venture agreements (including the Tax Receivable Agreement and the Common Unit Adjustment Agreement) to preserve the Company’s Up-C corporate structure, (ii) issue equity to the lenders as provided in the Plan (as defined below), (iii) make a capital contribution of \$15.0 million to NCM LLC (the “NCMI Capital Contribution”), (iv) enter into the new Director Designation Agreement and appoint the director nominees appointed by the creditors upon NCM LLC’s emergence from Chapter 11, and (v) take other specified actions needed to facilitate the completion of the transactions contemplated by the Plan (as described below) and in exchange the Company would receive approximately 13.8% of the ownership of NCM LLC’s equity upon emergence from Chapter 11 including equity issued on account of the Company’s ownership of NCM LLC’s prepetition secured notes. The Restructuring Support Agreement also set forth additional transactions that became the basis of the Plan.

On May 12, 2023, NCM LLC filed the solicitation versions of the First Amended Plan of Reorganization of National CineMedia, LLC Pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code [Docket No. 249] and the Amended Disclosure Statement for First Amended Chapter 11 Plan of Reorganization of National CineMedia, LLC [Docket No. 250] (the “Disclosure Statement”). On June 25, 2023, NCM LLC filed the Modified First Amended Plan of Reorganization of National CineMedia, LLC Pursuant to Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code [Docket No. 428] (as may be amended, supplemented, or otherwise modified from time to time, and including all exhibits and supplements thereto, the “Plan”).

On June 27, 2023, the Bankruptcy Court entered an order (the “Confirmation Order”) which approved the Disclosure Statement on a final basis and confirmed the Plan. The Plan provided for, among other things, the treatment for classes of claims and interests as follows:

- Secured debt claims. Each holder of a secured debt claim received its pro rata share of 100% of new common membership units (the equity in reorganized NCM LLC) with the right to exchange the units and receive shares of NCM, Inc.’s common stock subject to (a) reallocation of new common membership units to NCM, Inc. pursuant to the NCMI 9019 Settlement and (b) dilution on account of new common membership units issued on account of, among other things, a post-emergence management incentive plan.
- General unsecured claims. Each holder of a general unsecured claim, which includes, among other things, claims under the Unsecured Note Indenture, received its pro rata share of \$15.0 million, with (i) \$14.5 million contributed by NCM LLC and (ii) \$0.5 million contributed directly from NCM, Inc. (the “General Unsecured Claim Pool”).
- General unsecured convenience claims. Each holder of a general unsecured claim in the amount of \$50,000 or less received payment in full in cash on NCM LLC’s emergence from Chapter 11 or the date due in the ordinary course of business in accordance with the terms and conditions of the particular transaction giving rise to such claim; provided that any general unsecured claim (other than claims under the Unsecured Note Indenture) that was allowed in excess of \$50,000 was not to be treated as a general unsecured convenience claim unless the holder of such allowed general unsecured claim opted in to such treatment, and agreed to reduce its allowed general unsecured claim to \$50,000 pursuant to the procedures set forth in the Confirmation Order.
- Existing NCM LLC interests. Interests in NCM LLC received no recovery and were cancelled.

Pursuant to Section 1123(b)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code and Rule 9019 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, the Plan contained and effected global and integrated compromises and settlements between and among NCM LLC, the Creditors’ Committee (as defined in the Plan), the Consenting Creditors (as defined in the Plan) and NCM, Inc. The NCMI 9019 Settlement provided that following the Effective Date (as defined below) NCM, Inc. continued to have an aggregate ownership interest of approximately 13.8% of NCM LLC that was reallocated to NCM, Inc. from the Secured Debt Claims.

On August 7, 2023, following confirmation of the Plan, all the conditions to effectiveness of the Plan were satisfied or waived, the Restructuring Transactions (as defined in the Plan) were substantially consummated, and NCM LLC emerged from bankruptcy (the “Effective Date”). Among other things, on the Effective Date, in accordance with the Plan, NCM, Inc. transferred approximately \$15.5 million to NCM LLC consistent with the NCMI 9019 Settlement, NCM LLC assumed certain unexpired Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases (each, as defined in the Plan), including AMC’s and Cinemark’s ESAs, all Common Units of NCM LLC under the LLC Agreement were canceled and extinguished, NCM LLC commenced distributions to creditors, including the issuance of shares of NCM, Inc. Common Stock to Holders of Secured Debt Claims, and NCM LLC entered into an Exit Facility (as defined in the Plan) to support operations upon emergence.

NCM LLC was wholly owned by NCM, Inc. prior to April 11, 2023 when NCM LLC filed the Chapter 11 Case. As a result of the Chapter 11 Case and in accordance with applicable GAAP, the Company concluded that NCM, Inc. no longer controlled NCM LLC for accounting purposes, and therefore, NCM LLC was deconsolidated from the Company’s unaudited financial statements prospectively as of April 11, 2023. Upon emergence on August 7, 2023, NCM, Inc. retained its ownership in and regained control of NCM LLC for accounting purposes. NCM LLC was again consolidated into the Company’s consolidated financial statements prospectively as of the Effective Date. Within the financial results outlined within, all activity during the Chapter 11 Case from April 11, 2023 to August 7, 2023 when NCM LLC was deconsolidated from NCM, Inc. represents activity and balances for NCM, Inc. standalone. All activity and balances prior to the deconsolidation of NCM LLC on April 11, 2023 and after the reconsolidation of NCM LLC on August 7, 2023 represent NCM, Inc. consolidated, inclusive of NCM LLC. Upon emergence, NCM LLC transferred \$8.8 million of cash to a professional fees escrow account and \$15.0 million to an unsecured creditor settlements escrow account for the General Unsecured Claim Pool.

As of January 1, 2026, NCM LLC is still in the process of finalizing the settlement of unsecured creditors’ claims and has not completed all payments to NCM LLC’s unsecured creditors. NCM LLC holds a total of \$3.0 million within the escrow accounts and accruals, presented within ‘Restricted cash’ and ‘Accounts Payable’ on the audited Consolidated

Balance Sheets as of January 1, 2026, December 26, 2024 and December 28, 2023, respectively. Please refer to Note 5—*Business Combinations* for more information regarding the reconsolidation of NCM LLC.

The *Noovie*® Show Advertising

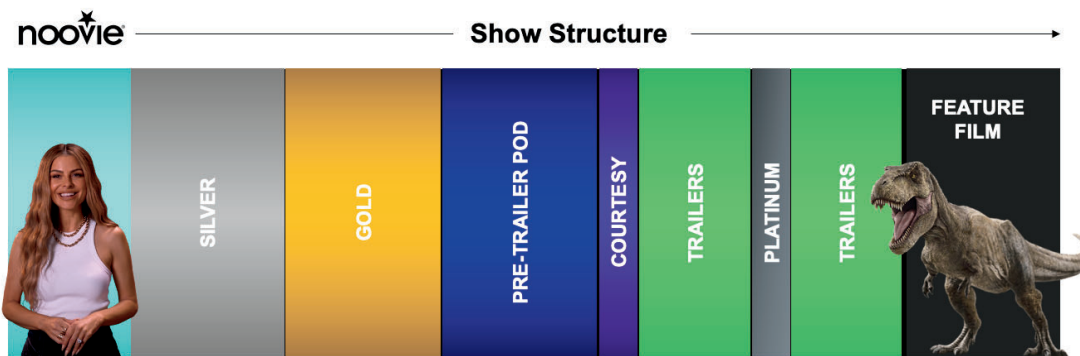
The *Noovie* Show—The *Noovie* Show provides an entertaining pre-movie experience for theater patrons while serving as an incremental revenue source for our theater circuits. The *Noovie* Show gives movie audiences a reason to arrive at the theater early to discover what's next, with exclusive entertainment content and engaging advertising from national, regional and local brands, as well as long-form entertainment and advertising content provided to us under exclusive multi-year arrangements with leading media, entertainment, technology and other companies (“content partners”).

In almost all of NCM's theater network, NCM offers post-show advertising inventory which may consist of a lights-down segment that runs after the advertised showtime with trailer lighting and may consist of a Platinum Spot embedded in the trailers, as further described below (“Post-Showtime Inventory”).

Given the customizable nature of The *Noovie* Show by theater circuit, theater location/market, film rating, film genre and film title, we produce and distribute many different versions of The *Noovie* Show each month. This programming flexibility provides advertisers with the ability to target specific audience demographics and geographic locations and ensure that the content and advertising are age-appropriate for the movie audience.

All versions of The *Noovie* Show are produced by our internal creative team, which is cost-effective and gives us significant flexibility while offering advertisers opportunities for sponsorship and integration into our movie and pop culture content series. Additionally, we work with several media and non-profit partners who provide NCM with pre-produced, culturally relevant editorial content for the show at no cost. Those content segments are co-branded with the partner and *Noovie* messaging and can be monetized by NCM through advertising sponsorships and brand integrations. We also offer pre- and post-production advertising creative services to our clients (primarily local clients who may not have their own creative agency), as well as branded content creation for national brands for a fee.

The *Noovie* Show Structure Including Post-Showtime Inventory—The *Noovie* Show with Post-Showtime Inventory format is typically comprised of three segments that are each approximately four to ten minutes in length and shown prior to showtime, as well as two additional advertising segments shown after the advertised showtime as described below. The total length of The *Noovie* Show plus our Post-Showtime Inventory varies by circuit and the demand for advertising during a given time period. The following graphic is for illustrative purposes and is not to exact scale.



- The Silver Pod is the first section of The *Noovie* Show which contains the entertaining content that is a core element of The *Noovie* Show programming. NCM programs exclusive *Noovie* content at the beginning of the show that gives audiences a look at what's happening in the movie and pop culture arenas and features long-form entertainment from our content partners. In 2025, we continued our *Noovie* Show editorial series featuring celebrities, creators and journalists to appeal to both our moviegoing audience and to advertisers for sponsorship and integration opportunities. These series include The *Noovie* Trivia Show, where our Emmy-award winning host Maria Menounos quizzes celebrities about their career through the lens of movie trivia; *Close Up with Perri*, starring movie expert Perri Nemiroff, who shares her insider reviews on what movies to watch and why; cultural celebrations, focusing on relevant cultural holidays and moments in our communities; and the Flashback Series, focusing on key moments from popular culture in the past usually tied to historical movies. The Silver Pod features primarily local and regional advertisements, which generally range between 15 to 90 seconds. This segment also typically includes a spot for *Noovie* Show programming, such as *Noovie* Trivia, *Noovie* Cultural Celebrations (e.g. original content around Black History Month or Hispanic Heritage Month, which can also be sponsored by advertisers) and shorter segments from the editorial series mentioned above.

- The Gold Pod runs after the Silver Pod and features primarily national advertisements, which are generally 30 or 60 seconds, as well as a long-form entertainment content segment from one of our content partners. Advertisements showtime is after the Gold Pod, except in Regal, where the advertised showtime is after the Silver Pod.
- The Pre-Trailer Pod runs after the Gold Pod and typically features 5 minutes of national advertisements which are generally between 30 or 60 seconds, at a lower lighting level than that of ads that play prior to the advertised showtime. After the conclusion of this pod, there is a courtesy public service announcement (“courtesy PSA”) (e.g. “Silence Your Cell Phones”) and a 30 second or a 60 second advertisement for the ESA Parties' beverage supplier.
- The Platinum Spot features an additional advertising unit that is either 30 or 60 seconds deeply embedded within the movie trailers at trailer level lighting and at similar volume levels, directly prior to the last one or two trailers preceding the feature film.

CineLife Show—Following the acquisition of Spotlight on November 14, 2025, the Company continued to present Spotlight's historical preshow for dine in and arthouse theaters, *CineLife*® within Spotlight's legacy theaters for the remainder of 2025. The *CineLife* Show is a curated preshow with two formats for its art house and dine-in circuits designed to appeal to an adult, culturally engaged audience. The *CineLife* Show features local, paid advertising, short films, contemporary movie trivia, customized exhibitor messaging and an eclectic soundtrack of today's best music, curated monthly by Spotlight.

National, Regional and Local Advertising—Our cinema advertising business has a diverse customer base, consisting of national, regional and local advertisers. National and regional on-screen advertising in The *Noovie* Show is sold on a CPM basis to national and regional clients. We generally sell our national advertising units across our national network by film rating or groups of ratings, or by individual film or film genre grouping. This ability to target various groups of films offers national advertisers a way to target specific audience demographics at various price points and overall cost levels, which we believe expands the number of potential clients. Local advertising is often sold on a per-theater, per-week basis.

As with other premium video mediums like linear TV and connected TV (CTV), we sell The *Noovie* Show inventory in both the upfront and scatter markets. Upfront is a term that describes the practice of buying advertising time “up front” on an annual basis for the upcoming year, purchasing inventory in advance and locking in the advertising rates (CPMs). Consistent with the television industry's upfront booking practices, a portion of our upfront commitments have cancellation options or options to reduce the amount that advertisers may purchase up until their commitment begins airing. These options could reduce what is ultimately spent by clients that have made upfront commitments. Scatter refers to the buying of advertising on a shorter-term basis closer to when the advertisements will run, which often results in a pricing premium compared to upfront rates. The mix between the upfront and scatter markets is based upon a number of advertising market factors, such as pricing, demand for advertising time and economic conditions. The demand in the scatter market impacts the pricing achieved for our remaining advertising inventory not sold upfront and can vary throughout the year.

During the years ended January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, the Company derived 80.0% and 78.1%, respectively, of its advertising revenue from national clients (including advertising agencies that represent our clients) and 14.2% and 16.2%, respectively, of its advertising revenue from regional and local advertisers across the country (including advertising agencies that represent these clients).

Programmatic and Self-Serve Marketplaces. Since 2024, the Company also has two additional marketplaces where advertisers can purchase our advertising inventory: programmatic and self-serve. The programmatic marketplace offers real-time data-driven trading of advertising inventory, allowing bidding on available audiences during The *Noovie* Show. Buyers can choose from programmatic guaranteed and private marketplace options, and programmatic buys can be customized by reach, geography, film rating, day of the week and time of day. Additionally, through NCM's fully automated self-serve solution, local and regional companies can plan, buy and schedule their own ads to run on the big screen directly from NCM.

Beverage Advertising. Each of the ESA Parties has a relationship with a beverage concessionaire supplier under which it is obligated to provide on-screen advertising time as part of its agreement to purchase branded beverages sold in its theaters. Under the ESAs, up to 90 seconds of the *Noovie* program can be sold to the ESA Parties to satisfy their on-screen advertising commitments under their beverage concessionaire agreements in effect in 2025. The price for the time sold to Cinemark's beverage supplier and AMC's beverage supplier will increase at a fixed rate of 2.0% each year.

During 2025, we sold 60 seconds of on-screen advertising to one of the ESA Parties and 30 seconds of on-screen advertising to the other ESA Party for their beverage concessionaires. In 2026, such obligations are expected to decrease resulting in lower beverage revenue in 2026, as compared to 2025. During 2025, the beverage concessionaire revenue from the ESA Parties' beverage agreements was approximately 5.8% of NCM LLC's total revenue.

Content. Beyond the *Noovie*-branded content during The *Noovie* Show, the majority of our entertainment and advertising content segments are provided to us by content partners. Under the terms of the contracts, our content partners create original long-form entertainment content segments and make commitments to buy a portion of our advertising

inventory at a specified CPM over a time period that is typically longer than a typical national advertising purchase. The original content produced by these content partners typically features upcoming media programming or technology products. In 2025, the content partner segments were between 60 and 120 seconds in length.

Courtesy PSA. In 2025, we had two agreements throughout the year to exhibit a 40-second “silence your cell phone” courtesy PSA reminding moviegoers to silence their cell phones and refrain from texting during feature films. There are two agreements in place as of February 2026.

Theater Circuit Messaging. The *Noovie Show* also includes time slots for the ESA Parties and network affiliates to advertise various activities associated with the operations of the theaters, including concessions, online ticketing partners, gift card and loyalty programs, special events presented by the theater operator and vendors of services provided to theaters, so long as such promotion is incidental to the vendor’s service or products sold in the theater. This service is provided to the theater operator at no charge.

Data & Digital Advertising

NCMx™. NCMx is a data, insights and analytics platform that utilizes the Company’s comprehensive knowledge and extensive data about moviegoer behavior to connect brands with custom audiences across all screens, both in theaters and beyond, before, during and after their moviegoing experience. NCM clients are able to leverage NCMx to execute advanced audience-matching against key geographic, behavioral and contextual targets on the big screen, as well as retarget moviegoers across any screen with tailored ads or exclusive brand offers. NCM provides advertisers with access to one of the largest collections of deterministic moviegoer data in the industry, delivering a 360-degree view of recent consumer behavior with performance metrics to refine campaign plans and generate a better return on their advertising investment. NCM is leading the cinema advertising industry as it transforms into a data-first media company that reaches audiences at scale with the most engaging content.

NCM BoostSM. In 2024, the Company expanded our Audience Accelerator digital product with NCM Boost which enhances cinema advertising campaigns by extending their reach beyond the big screen. This enhancement empowers advertisers to execute comprehensive retargeting, reconnecting with the elusive moviegoer audience on the right screen at the right time to maximize campaign impact. With NCM Boost, brands reach a national level scale while also targeting moviegoers with enough precision to achieve saturation at a detailed local level. NCM Boost identifies moviegoers using first-, second- and third-party data, enabling precise targeting based on demographics, genres or additional data layers to deliver tailored client campaigns. Data-driven campaigns are executed across all platforms, connecting brands with their target audience through an all-encompassing approach. Campaigns are distributed through strategic partnerships with leading premium streaming networks, ensuring broad reach across diverse channels, allowing brands to engage moviegoers on platforms such as the internet, mobile devices, connected televisions (CTV), and over-the-top (OTT) devices. This comprehensive strategy ensures brands can effectively reach their audience wherever they consume entertainment information and content.

NCM BoomerangSM. Launched in 2024, NCM Boomerang is the NCMx™ retargeting solution designed to amplify post-theater engagement by reconnecting with moviegoers after their theater experience through the use of onscreen QR codes. By retargeting audiences at a predetermined interval, such as three hours after initial campaign exposure, NCM Boomerang enables advertisers to capitalize on the last-click attribution of big-screen campaigns seen in theaters, maximizing their impact and driving measurable results.

NCM BullseyeSM. Launched in 2025, NCM Bullseye leverages AI-generated creative to deliver dynamic, hyper-localized messaging at a national scale. NCM Bullseye integrates key signals, such as DMA, geo-targeting, local offers and audience insights to optimize campaigns’ reach with precision across the NCM network by enabling advertisers to deploy multiple creative renderings across a single cinema campaign, adapting and localizing the content based on audience segment, audience behavior and audience location.

NCM BlueprintSM. Launched in 2025, NCM Blueprint uses real-time renovation permit data to identify homeowners who are actively engaged in remodeling projects, giving brands the ability to reach high-intent consumers at high-intent purchase moments.

We market NCM’s data platform and all-encompassing marketing solutions through our national and local sales groups to enable integrated selling. Our new and upcoming data and digital products are designed to complement in-theater advertisements, offering integrated marketing packages as discussed in “Business—Our Strategy”. We plan to continue investing in our data and digital partnerships and all-encompassing marketing solutions in 2026 and beyond.

Lobby Advertising

Lobby Entertainment Network—Our LEN is a network of video screens strategically located throughout the lobbies of all digitally equipped ESA Parties’ theaters, as well as the majority of our network affiliates’ theaters. The LEN screens

are placed in high-traffic locations such as concession stands, box offices and other waiting areas. In certain exhibitors, NCM is working with a hardware partner to develop a more modern approach to the LEN, including larger formats and multiple screens.

Programming on our LEN consists of an approximately 30-minute loop of branded entertainment content segments created specifically for the lobby with advertisements running between each segment. We have the scheduling flexibility to send different LEN programming to each theater through our DCN, and the same program is displayed simultaneously on all LEN screens within a given theater, which we believe provides the maximum impact for our advertisers. We sell national and local advertising on the LEN individually or bundled with on-screen or other lobby promotions. As a part of the LEN programming, theater exhibitors have the right to promote activities associated with the operation of the theaters or display other feature film related materials.

NCM launched the LEN programmatic offering in 2022. This automated offering allows advertisers to access and purchase available LEN programming. The partnership enabled advertisers to reach the largest network of lobby screens in movie theaters across the country programmatically for the first time.

Lobby Promotions and Experiential Products—We also sell a wide variety of advertising and promotional products in theater lobbies across our ESA Parties and certain network affiliates. These products can be sold individually or bundled with on-screen, LEN or digital advertising. Lobby promotions and experiential products may include:

- brand activations ranging from lounges to 3D holograms, selfie photo stations, social media, vending machines, costume displays and more;
- advertising on concession items such as beverage cups, popcorn bags and kids' trays;
- coupons and promotional materials, which are customizable by film and are distributed to ticket buyers at the box office or as they exit the theater;
- tabling displays, product demonstrations and sampling;
- touch-screen display units, kiosks and other interactive and creative forms of media;
- signage throughout the lobbies, including posters, banners, counter cards, danglers, floor mats, standees and window clings; and
- exit sampling.

Under the terms of the ESAs, the ESA Parties may conduct a limited number of lobby promotions at no charge in connection with strategic programs that promote motion pictures; however, such activities will not reduce the lobby promotions inventory available to us.

Our ability to provide in-lobby marketing and promotional placements in conjunction with our cinema advertising products allows us to offer integrated marketing solutions to advertisers that provide multiple touchpoints with theater patrons throughout the movie-going experience, which we believe is a competitive advantage over other national media platforms.

Digital Out-of-Home Products

NCM's Digital Out-of-Home ("DOOH") group is embedded as part of our national and local sales organizations and was created in October 2020 to further unite brands with the power of movies by extending movie-centric *Noovie*® entertainment content, trivia and advertising beyond movie theaters to a variety of complementary venues. In 2025, NCM sold DOOH media inventory on a national, regional, local and programmatic level in relationships with digital place-based properties including screens in convenience stores and college campuses.

Our Network

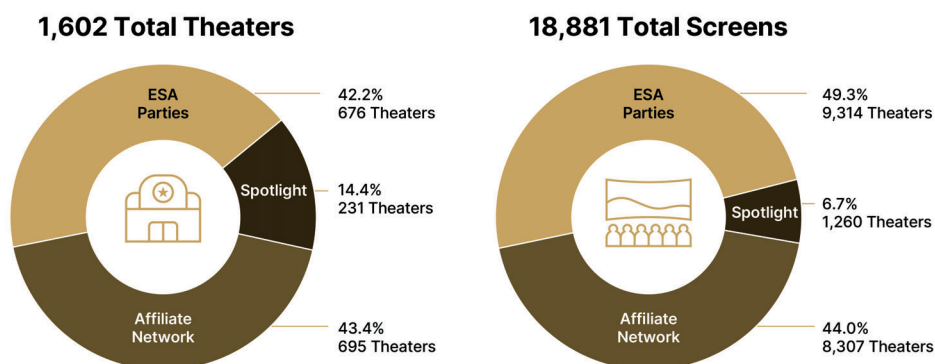
The *Noovie*® Show is distributed across NCM LLC's national theater network — the largest digital in-theater network in North America — through the use of our proprietary DCN and Digital Content Software ("DCS"). With the DCN and DCS, we are able to schedule, deliver, play and reconcile advertising and entertainment content for The *Noovie* Show and the LEN on a national, regional, local, theater and auditorium level.

The DCN is the combination of a satellite distribution network and a terrestrial management network. The DCN is integrated with NCM's cinema advertising management system to seamlessly schedule and distribute advertising content. NCM's integrated system dynamically controls the quality, placement, timing of playback and completeness of content within specific auditoriums, and it also allows us to monitor and initiate repairs to the equipment in our digital network of theaters.

Advertising and entertainment content for The *Noovie* Show and LEN is uploaded to our cinema advertising management system and is delivered via multicast technology to the theaters in our network and received by our Alternative Content Engine. The Alternative Content Engine holds the content until displayed in specified theater auditoriums and lobbies according to contract terms. Each theater auditorium and lobby has hardware and/or software architecture that controls the content to be shown. After playback of content, confirmation of playback is returned to NCM and is included in “post” reports provided to our advertising clients.

In 2025, more than 403.8 million moviegoers attended theaters that are currently under contract to present The *Noovie* Show or the *CineLife* Show. A summary of the screens and theaters in our combined advertising network is set forth in the table below:

Our Network
(As of January 1, 2026)



As of January 1, 2026, The *Noovie* Show was displayed on network movie screens using digital projectors. Almost all screens within our network receive content through our DCN and are equipped with more powerful digital cinema projectors, with the remainder comprised of LCD projectors.

Human Capital

We had 248 full-time employees as of January 1, 2026. Our employees are located in our Centennial, Colorado headquarters, and in our other offices, including New York, Los Angeles, Chicago and Detroit. We also have remote employees, including many major markets advertising account executives that work remotely throughout the U.S. The Company continually works to structure the organization in optimal ways to meet customer, employee and shareholder needs. None of our employees are covered by collective bargaining agreements. We believe that we have a good relationship with our employees.

Talent—We are focused on building talent at all levels of the organization by recruiting high quality talent with a broad set of backgrounds and characteristics and have taken steps to align our policies with best practices from other respected organizations. We are focused on identifying and helping to implement initiatives intended to improve areas such as recruitment, retention, brand awareness and community outreach.

Organizational Development—Our Human Resources and leadership team is focused on broad management development as well as supporting targeted training to individuals and teams based on business needs. Managers and supervisors participate in specialized training to develop management skills, encourage employee development and retention and assist the Company with succession planning by identifying top talent to be developed into future leaders. Our Human Resources department also regularly provides employees with mandatory compliance training regarding preventing harassment and discrimination, workplace diversity, our code of conduct, IT and cyber security and other related courses to help them with their daily responsibilities. Compliance with mandatory training requirements is tracked by our Human Resources department and management is notified when the requirements are not met.

The Human Resources department also focuses on defining and embedding the NCM culture into all people-related practices and policies to help us recruit, develop and retain a world-class team to grow the business. The Company has implemented a number of targeted initiatives to increase employee engagement and satisfaction, including team and culture-building activities, career and succession planning and ongoing analysis and enhancements of our total rewards program.

Total Rewards—We invest in our employees by providing comprehensive benefits and compensation packages. Our benefits packages include comprehensive health insurance with a wellness program for all eligible employees, parental leave for all new parents for the birth or adoption of a child or placement of foster care, 401k plan with a comprehensive financial wellness component and voluntary benefits employees can tailor to their specific needs ranging from additional life insurance to pet insurance.

Seasonality

Our revenue and operating results are seasonal in nature, coinciding with the timing of marketing expenditures by our advertising clients and to a lesser extent the attendance patterns within the film exhibition industry. Historically, both advertising expenditures and theater attendance tend to be higher during the second, third and fourth fiscal quarters. Advertising revenue is primarily correlated with new product releases, advertising client marketing priorities and economic cycles and to a lesser extent theater attendance levels. Seasonal demand during the summer is driven by the absence of alternative attractive advertising mediums and during the winter holiday season due to high client demand across all advertising mediums. The actual quarterly results for each quarter could differ materially depending on these factors or other risks and uncertainties. Based on our historical experience, our first quarter typically has less revenue than the other quarters of a given year due primarily to lower advertising client demand and increased inventory availability in competitive advertising mediums. There can be no assurances that seasonal variations will not materially affect our results of operations in the future.

The following table reflects the quarterly percentage of total NCM LLC revenue for the fiscal years ended 2025, 2024 and 2023:

	<u>First Quarter</u>	<u>Second Quarter</u>	<u>Third Quarter</u>	<u>Fourth Quarter</u>
FY 2025	14.3%	21.3%	26.1%	38.3%
FY 2024	15.5%	22.8%	25.9%	35.8%
FY 2023	13.4%	24.8%	26.8%	35.0%

Government Regulations

Currently, we are not subject to regulations specific to the sale and distribution of cinema advertising. We are subject to federal, state and local laws that govern businesses generally such as wage and hour, worker compensation and health and safety laws as well as privacy, information security and consumer protection-related laws and regulations. We have been and are currently in compliance with all material government mandated and environmental regulations.

Competition

Our advertising business competes in the estimated \$409 billion U.S. advertising industry in 2025, which includes spending across television, radio, print, digital, mobile and out-of-home advertising. While cinema advertising represents a small portion of the overall advertising industry today, we believe it is well-positioned to capitalize on the continuing shift of advertising spending away from traditional media, in particular linear television where consumers can skip advertisements through DVRs and other technology, to newer and more targeted forms of media.

Our advertising business also competes with other providers of cinema advertising, which vary substantially in size. As the largest cinema advertising network in the U.S., we believe that we are able to generate economies of scale, operating efficiencies and enhanced opportunities for our clients to reach an engaged movie audience on both a national and local level to allow us to better compete for premium video dollars in the larger advertising marketplace.

Competitive Strengths

We believe that several strengths position us well to compete in an increasingly fragmented media landscape. We believe that our cinema advertising network is an attractive option for advertisers on a national, regional and local level and delivers measurable results for our clients that are comparable, and preferred, to the television, online and mobile or other video advertising options that we compete against in the marketplace.

Extensive national market coverage—Our contractual agreements with our ESA Parties and network affiliates provide long-term exclusive access (subject to limited exceptions) to sell cinema advertising across the largest network of digitally-equipped theaters in the U.S. This allows us to offer advertisers the broad reach and national scale that they need to effectively reach their target audiences.

- Our NCM Network consisted of 17,621 screens (9,314 operated by the ESA Parties) located in 1,371 theaters (676 operated by the ESA Parties) in 47 states and the District of Columbia, including each of the top 25, 50 and 100 DMAs®, and 184 DMAs® in total, as of January 1, 2026;
- The over 398 million people who attended theaters in the NCM Network in 2025 represented 69.3%, 64.0% and 62.0% of the total theater attendance in theaters that present cinema advertising in the top 10, 25 and 50 U.S. DMAs®, respectively, and 56.4% of all DMAs® nationally, providing an attractive platform for national advertisers who want exposure in larger markets or on a national basis;
- The average screens per theater in our NCM Network during 2025 was 12.9 screens; and
- The aggregate annual attendance per screen of theaters included in our NCM Network during 2025 was 22,609.

Scalable, state-of-the-art digital content distribution technology—Our use of the combination of satellite and terrestrial DCN network technology, combined with the design and functionality of our DCS and Customer Experience Center infrastructure, makes our network efficient and scalable and also allows us to target specific audiences and provide advertising scheduling flexibility and reporting. National, local and regional advertisers are generally able to run their ads in The *Noovie*® Show less than 72 hours following the close of the proposal which is comparable to the lead time of television advertising, giving businesses that rely on time-sensitive promotional advertising strategies the opportunity to take advantage of the power of cinema.

This scalability of our distribution technology allows us to expand our cinema advertising network with minimal additional capital expenditures or personnel, and we expect to benefit from this scalability in the event we add to the theaters from the ESA Parties, our existing network affiliate relationships and the addition of new network affiliates.

Access to a highly attractive, engaged audience—We offer advertisers the ability to reach highly-coveted target demographics, including young, affluent and educated “Millennial” and “Gen Z” moviegoers. According to Comscore PostTrak, approximately 56% of the NCM Network audiences were between the ages of 12-34 and the median age of our moviegoers is 30. Further, approximately 38% of our moviegoers reside in households with an annual income greater than \$100,000, with a median moviegoer household income of \$122,000. Approximately 39.0% of our audience has attained a bachelor’s degree or higher according to Transunion.

Due to the impact of cinema’s state-of-the-art immersive video and audio presentation, we also believe that movie audiences are highly engaged with The *Noovie* Show advertising and entertainment content that they view in our theater environment. The ground-breaking attention studies conducted in 2022 and 2023 by Lumen, a leader in attention measurement, demonstrated that moviegoers paid greater attention to advertisements in theaters compared to all other premium video platforms. Cinema’s attention advantage is 2 to 3 times that of Linear Live Sports, Fast Nets, Top Tier AVOD and podcasts and 7 to 16 times that of social media and digital. Further, with over 400 research studies conducted since 2017, advertising on the big screen consistently delivers strong results for advertisers across categories regardless of ad length, creative or movie rating with an average ad recall score of 75.0% with brand lift for critical key performance indicators of awareness (increase of 62.0%) and consideration (increase of 24.0%). Additionally, according to an intercept study conducted by eWorks, a market research company, a Platinum Spot advertiser experienced 88.0% brand recall among adult moviegoers between ages 18 to 34, with significant lifts in brand relevance (increase of 52.0%) and brand excitement (increase of +64%) after advertising with NCM in August 2025. The 4Dx format reaffirms the power of the immersive cinematic experience with a major auto advertiser experiencing a brand lift in awareness (increase of 425.0%) following a summer 2025 campaign.

World-class entertainment and innovative, branded pre-feature content—The film content created by Hollywood studios is considered some of the finest entertainment content in the world, which creates a highly-desirable advertising environment for brands. We believe that The *Noovie* Show program provides a high-quality entertainment experience for theater audiences and an effective marketing platform for advertisers. By partnering with leading media, entertainment, technology and other companies, we are able to provide better original content for our audience and increase the impact for the advertiser. Because we offer local and national “pods” within The *Noovie* Show (that is, groupings of ads interspersed among video content), our format is consistent with the grouping of ads on television networks, which allows advertisers to more easily integrate The *Noovie* Show into traditional sight-sound-and-motion media buys.

Prime movie audience data, measurability and targeting—As with many other advertising mediums, we are measured by third-party research companies. The People Platform (formerly Epicenter Experience LLC) measured our audience in 2025, including the total attendance that are in their seats during The *Noovie*® Show. Additionally, unlike some other advertising mediums, we also receive attendance information by film, by rating and by screen at least monthly for all of the ESA Parties’ theaters, and by location for the network affiliate theaters within the NCM Network at least monthly, which allows us to report the actual audience size for each showing of a film where The *Noovie* Show played. We believe that the

ability to provide detailed information to our clients gives us a distinct competitive advantage over traditional media platforms whose measurement is based only on extrapolations of a very small sample of the total audience.

In 2025, we continued to invest in the development of our cloud-based Data Management Platform (DMP), enabling us to deliver enhanced audience insights and analytics to our clients. To strengthen the connection between brands and moviegoers, we aggregate audience data from various sources within our DMP. This data supports ad targeting and provides complete attribution reporting to evaluate campaign performance. Looking ahead to 2026, we plan to further enhance the platform's capabilities by broadening first-party data collection through strategic initiatives and integrating additional second- and third-party data sources and audience segments.

Integrated marketing and digital products—Our ability to bundle our on-screen advertising opportunities with integrated lobby, digital marketing and digital out-of-home products allows us to offer advertisers multiple touchpoints to reach movie audiences anytime and anywhere to execute true 360-degree marketing programs. We believe these multiple marketing impressions throughout the entire entertainment experience allow our advertisers to extend the exposure for their brands and products and create a more engaging relationship with movie audiences in every stage of their movie journey. Additionally, our NCMx™ data platform makes cinema advertising more measurable, targetable and attributable than ever before. We power the NCMx suite of products with first-, second- and third-party data to better reach advertising clients' target audiences with higher degrees of accuracy and measure a variety of business outcomes more accurately.

Contractual theater circuit and advertiser relationships—Our exclusive multi-year contractual relationships with our ESA Parties and network affiliates allow us to offer advertisers a national network with the scale, flexibility and targeting to meet their marketing needs. Our exclusive contractual relationships with our content partners and courtesy PSA sponsors, as well as our agreements to satisfy the ESA Parties' on-screen marketing obligations to their beverage concessionaires, provide us with a significant upfront revenue commitment, accounting for approximately 17.1% and 19.0% of our total revenue for the years ended January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, respectively. In addition, our participation in the annual advertising upfront marketplace has allowed us to secure significant annual upfront commitments from national advertisers looking to secure premium cinema inventory. These upfront commitments accounted for approximately 28.9% and 30.1% of our total revenue for the years ended January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, respectively.

Limited capital requirements—NCM LLC's capital expenditures were 3.4% and 2.3% of revenue for the years ended January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, respectively. For the year ended January 1, 2026, our capital expenditures and other investments were \$8.3 million with \$2.9 million associated with network affiliate additions, \$2.7 million associated with continued upgrades within our cinema advertising management system and associated reporting; \$0.9 million associated with leasehold improvements; \$0.7 million associated with digital product development; and \$0.5 million associated with certain implementation and prepaid costs associated with cloud computing arrangements. Due to the network equipment investments made in theaters by us and in conjunction our ESA Parties under the ESA, and the scalable nature of our Customer Experience Center and other infrastructure, we do not expect to need major capital investments to grow our operations as our network of theaters continues to expand. We do expect to incur some capital investments in order to integrate the Spotlight Cinema Network and potentially modernize the technology within certain exhibitor lobbies. Additionally, as we continue to move our technology to cloud-based Software as a Service ("SaaS") platforms, we expect to continue to reduce our annual capital expenditure spending. However, operating expenses associated with the SaaS licenses will continue to increase. Certain implementation costs of our SaaS platforms were capitalized during the implementation period and are recognized within operating income over the term of the SaaS contract once the systems are fully implemented.

Our Strategy

We are continuing to pursue a growth strategy that we believe will create significant value following the normalization of our operations. Our strategy includes the following key components:

Increase the Value of Cinema Media

We intend to drive an increase in value through innovation and optimization of our current product offerings. Beginning in 2019 and further expanded with the 2025 AMC Agreement, we have achieved one of our key initiatives by obtaining inventory for The *Noovie*® Show after the advertised showtime in almost all of our theaters as of January 1, 2026, based upon attendance. This Post-Showtime Inventory consists of a total of five to ten minutes depending upon the ESA Party or affiliate between the lights-down segment beginning just after the advertised movie showtime and including trailer lighting and the 30- or 60-second Platinum Spot deeply embedded within the movie trailers with trailer lighting and full trailer volume. Nearly every Spotlight exhibitor includes approximately two to five minutes of Post-Showtime Inventory, resulting in 97.0% of our combined networks including Post-Showtime Inventory as of January 1, 2026. We believe this inventory constitutes prized and impactful ad spots. We believe our local and regional clients also benefit from better inventory as their placement is closer to the advertised showtime. Within the Regal Advertising Affiliate Agreement, effective on July 14, 2023, we began advertising for five additional minutes after the posted showtime for a total of ten minutes. Within the 2025 AMC Agreement, we began advertising for five minutes after the posted showtime and in the

Platinum Spot. We believe this higher value inventory, combined with an entertaining and engaging show that is integrated with our *Noovie* digital ecosystem, provides a unique cross-platform premium video product that will stand out in the media marketplace. We also believe it will help mitigate the potential future impact of reserved seating on our business.

Our relationships with our exhibitors are a key focus of our business. Our Affiliate Partnerships team is dedicated to serving the needs of our ESA Parties' theater circuits and our 41 network affiliates nationwide in the NCM Network as of January 1, 2026. We plan to continue to expand our affiliate network by strategically targeting priority exhibitors who are not currently part of our network and whose cinema advertising contracts will be coming up for renewal in the next several years in order to add key affiliates and screens in select markets. This will allow us to increase our revenue by increasing the number of impressions we have available to sell to advertisers, extending our reach to additional markets to further improve our national footprint for brands looking to reach those audiences and strengthening our reach in markets we are already in for greater saturation in those DMAs. In 2025, we acquired Spotlight, adding 108 exhibitors and approximately 30.0 million annual attendees to our network. In January 2024, we renewed our exhibitor agreement with Santikos Enterprises through December 31, 2028, one of the largest cinema operators in the U.S, which operates a circuit of 27 theaters with 377 screens.

As part of our strategy to demonstrate the effectiveness and accountability of cinema as a premium advertising medium, the Company continues to invest in independent measurement to quantify media quality, attention and outcomes. Third-party studies have consistently shown that cinema advertising delivers materially higher attention than other video environments.

In 2023, the Company released a comprehensive attention study conducted by Lumen, an independent attention measurement provider, which found that cinema generates four to seven times greater attention than television, connected TV, online video, social media, and other digital platforms. The study demonstrated longer sustained attention and higher engagement throughout ad playback, as well as a direct relationship between attention metrics and brand outcomes, including recall and brand choice.

These findings have been reinforced through ongoing measurement partnerships, including with Adelaide. Using Adelaide's Attention Unit (AU) framework, cinema campaigns measured across multiple years have consistently exceeded digital and premium video benchmarks, placing cinema among the highest-quality media environments measured. Together, these studies demonstrate that cinema's attention advantage is durable and repeatable across campaigns, categories and time.

Expand our Marketplace through Data and Programmatic Capabilities

The Company has expanded its outcome measurement and attribution capabilities through NCMx, its proprietary data and technology platform, which integrates exposure data with third-party datasets to measure incremental reach, visitation and downstream actions. The Company has also continued to scale its programmatic capabilities through integrations with leading supply-side platforms, including Place Exchange and Vistar, enabling increased access to programmatic demand while maintaining premium media quality and measurement standards. We also intend to ensure our technology infrastructure is built to support sustained revenue growth. Following the development of programmatic LEN capabilities in 2021, in 2024 we launched two new offerings for on-screen advertising; programmatic and self-serve. Programmatic offers real-time data-driven trading of cinema advertising inventory, allowing bidding on available audiences during *The Noovie Show*. Buyers can choose from programmatic guaranteed and private marketplace options, and programmatic buys can be customized by reach, geography, film rating, day of the week and time of day. Additionally, through NCM's fully automated self-serve solution, local and regional companies can plan, buy, and schedule their ads to run on the big screen.

Optimize Operation Effectiveness and Efficiency

We intend to ensure our technology infrastructure is built to support sustained revenue growth. We continue to further enhance our cinema advertising management system implemented in January of 2021, most recently with the additional functionality of programmatic and self-serve, as discussed above.

As technology continues to evolve, we will further assess our strategy in order to best leverage its capabilities including through use of artificial intelligence and automation, as applicable, as we continue our focus on increasing both revenue growth and cost efficiencies within our broader business processes.

Intellectual Property Rights

We have been granted a perpetual, royalty-free license from the ESA Parties to use certain proprietary software for the delivery of digital advertising and other content through our DCN to screens in the U.S. We have made improvements to this software since our IPO and we own those improvements exclusively, except for improvements that were developed jointly with the ESA Parties.

We have secured U.S. trademark registrations for NCM®, National CineMedia®, *Noovie*® and NCMx™. Following the acquisition of Spotlight, the Company acquired an additional trademark registration for Spotlight Cinema Networks®, *Cinelife*® and *Cinelife Entertainment*®. It is our practice to defend our trademarks and other intellectual property rights,

including the associated goodwill, from infringement by others. We are aware that other persons or entities may use names and marks containing variations of our registered trademarks and other marks and trade names. Potentially, claims alleging infringement of intellectual property rights, such as trademark infringement, could be brought against us by the users of those other names and marks. If any such infringement claim were to prove successful in preventing us from either using or prohibiting a competitor's use of our registered trademarks or other marks or trade names, our ability to build brand identity could be negatively impacted.

Available Information

We maintain a website at www.ncm.com, on which we post free of charge our annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and any amendments to these reports (under the heading "Investor Relations" located at the bottom of the home page) after we electronically file such material with, or furnish it to, the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). We also regularly post information about the Company on the Investor Relations page. We do not incorporate the information on our website into this document and you should not consider any information on, or that can be accessed through, our website as part of this document. The SEC also maintains a website that contains our reports and other information at www.sec.gov.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

Ownership of the common stock and other securities of the Company involves certain risks. You should carefully consider the following material risks and other information in this document, including our historical financial statements and related notes included herein. The material risks and uncertainties described in this document are not the only ones facing us. If any of the risks and uncertainties described in this document actually occur, our business, financial condition and results of operations could be adversely affected in a material way. This could cause the trading price of our common stock to decline, perhaps significantly, and you may lose part or all of your investment.

Risks Related to Our Business and Industry

Significant declines in theater attendance could reduce the attractiveness of cinema advertising and could reduce our revenue.

Our business is affected by the level of attendance at the theaters in our advertising network that operate in a highly competitive industry and whose attendance is reliant on the presence of motion pictures that attract audiences. The value of our advertising business could be adversely affected by a decline in theater attendance or even the perception by media buyers that our network is no longer relevant to their marketing plan due to the decreases in attendance and geographic coverage. Factors that could reduce attendance at our network theaters include the following:

- if NCM LLC's network theater circuits cannot compete with other entertainment due to an increase in the use of alternative film delivery methods (and the shortening or elimination of the "release window" of major motion pictures bypassing the theater entirely), including network and online video streaming and downloads;
- theater circuits in NCM LLC's network are expected to continue to renovate auditoriums in certain of their theaters to install new larger, more comfortable seating or adjust seating arrangements, reducing the number of seats and the audience size in a theater auditorium. These renovations have been viewed favorably by patrons and many theater circuits have noted an intent to continue such renovations;
- changes in theater operating policies, including the number and length of trailers for films that are played prior to the start of the feature film, which may result in most or all of The *Noovie*® Show starting further out from the actual start of the feature film;
- any reduction in consumer confidence or disposable income in general that reduces the demand for motion pictures or adversely affects the motion picture production or exhibition industries;
- the success of first-run motion pictures, which depends upon the number of films produced for theater exhibition and the production and marketing efforts of the major studios and the attractiveness and value proposition of the movies to consumers compared to other forms of entertainment;
- writers', actors' or other film production-related strikes that impact the availability of feature films;
- if political events, such as terrorist attacks, or health-related epidemics, such as flu outbreaks, and pandemics, such as the COVID-19 Pandemic, cause consumers to avoid movie theaters or other places where large crowds are in attendance (for example the outbreak of the novel corona virus or COVID-19 in 2020 (the "COVID-19 Pandemic"));
- government regulations or theater operating policies that require higher levels of social distancing, restriction of capacity or prohibition of operations;

- if the theaters in our network fail to maintain and clean their theaters and provide amenities that consumers prefer;
- if future theater attendance declines significantly over an extended time period, one or more of NCM LLC's network theater circuits may face financial difficulties and could be forced to sell or close theaters or reduce the number of screens it builds or upgrades or increase ticket prices; and
- NCM LLC's network theater circuits also may not successfully compete for licenses to exhibit quality films and are not assured a consistent supply of motion pictures.

Any of these circumstances could reduce our revenue because our national and regional advertising revenue, and local advertising revenue to a lesser extent, depends on the number of theater patrons who attend movies. Additionally, if attendance underperforms against expectations or declines significantly, the Company will be required to provide additional advertising time (makegoods) to national advertisers to reach agreed-on audience delivery thresholds. Certain of these circumstances can also lead to volatility within our utilization, which typically varies more than 10% on an annual basis and even more substantially quarter-to-quarter.

Changes in theater patron behavior could result in declines in the viewership of The Noovie® Show which could reduce the attractiveness of cinema advertising and our revenues.

The value of our national and regional on-screen advertising and to a lesser extent our local advertising is based on the number of theater patrons that are in their seats and thus have the opportunity to view The Noovie Show. Trends in patron behavior that could reduce viewership of The Noovie Show include the following:

- theater patrons are increasingly purchasing tickets ahead of time via online ticketing mediums and when available reserving a seat in the theater (offered in a significant percentage of our network), which could affect how early patrons arrive to the theater and reduce the number of patrons that are in a theater seat to view most or all of The Noovie Show;
- during the COVID-19 Pandemic, certain consumers changed their behavior in order to avoid large groups and other public indoor activities, and these behavior changes could become a long-term trend;
- certain theater chains have increased the number of trailers and time devoted to other programming prior to the display of the feature film, and in combination with our Post-Showtime Inventory, may cause patrons to arrive later to theaters and reduce the number of patrons that are in a theater seat to view most or all of The Noovie Show; and
- changes in theater patron amenities, including bars and entertainment within exhibitor lobbies causing increased dwell time of patrons.

National advertising sales and rates are dependent on the methodology used to measure audience impressions. If a change is made to this methodology that reflects fewer audience impressions available during the show, this could adversely affect the Company's revenue and results of operations.

Changes in the ESAs with, or lack of support by, the ESA Parties could adversely affect our revenue, growth and profitability.

The ESAs with the ESA Parties are critical to our business. The ESA with AMC (as amended by the 2025 ESA Amendment) has a term of 35 years and the ESA with Cinemark (as amended by the 2019 ESA Amendment) has a term of 34 years, each such term beginning February 13, 2007. The Cinemark ESA provides NCM LLC with a five-year right of first refusal for the services that it provides to Cinemark, which begins one year prior to the end of the term of each respective ESA. The ESA Parties' theaters represent approximately 52.9% of the screens and approximately 63.0% of the attendance in the NCM Network as of January 1, 2026. If either ESA were terminated, not renewed at its expiration, rejected in a bankruptcy proceeding, or found to be unenforceable, it could have a material negative impact on our revenue, profitability and financial condition.

The ESAs require the continuing cooperation, investment and support of the ESA Parties, the absence of which could adversely affect us. Pursuant to the ESAs, the ESA Parties must make investments to replace network equipment within their theaters and equip newly constructed theaters with digital network equipment. If the ESA Parties do not have adequate financial resources or operational strength, and if they do not replace equipment or equip new theaters to maintain the level of operating functionality that we have today, or if such equipment becomes obsolete, we may have to make additional capital expenditures or our advertising revenue and operating margins may decline. In addition, the ESAs give the ESA Parties the right to object to certain content in The Noovie® Show, including content that competes with us or the applicable ESA Party. If the ESA Parties do not agree with our decisions on what content, strategic program or partnerships are permitted under the ESAs, we may lose advertising clients and the resulting revenue, which would harm our business.

If the non-competition provisions of the ESAs or other advertising agreements are deemed unenforceable, the counterparties could compete against us and our business could be adversely affected.

With certain limited exceptions, each of the ESAs and other network affiliate agreements prohibits the applicable counterparty from engaging in any of the business activities that we provide in the counterparty's theaters under the ESAs and network affiliate agreements, and the ESAs and certain network affiliate agreements prohibit the counterparty from owning interests in other entities that compete with us. These provisions are intended to prevent the counterparties from harming our business by providing cinema advertising services directly to their theaters or by entering into agreements with other third-party cinema advertising providers. However, under state and federal law, a court may determine that a non-competition covenant is unenforceable, in whole or in part, for reasons including, but not limited to, the court's determination that the covenant:

- is not necessary to protect a legitimate business interest of the party seeking enforcement;
- unreasonably restrains the party against whom enforcement is sought; or
- is contrary to the public interest.

Enforceability of a non-competition covenant is determined by a court based on all of the facts and circumstances of the specific case at the time enforcement is sought, including the type of court hearing the matter. For this reason, it is not possible for us to predict whether, or to what extent, a court would enforce the non-competition provisions contained in the ESAs and network affiliate agreements. If a court were to determine that the non-competition provisions are unenforceable, the counterparties could compete directly against us or enter into an agreement with another cinema advertising provider that competes against us. Any inability to enforce the non-competition provisions, in whole or in part, could cause our revenue to decline and could have a material negative impact on our business. If NCM seeks to enforce the non-competition provisions in connection with a counterparty's bankruptcy, the bankruptcy court may be a less favorable venue for adjudicating the implicated provisions and result in a different outcome than would occur outside of bankruptcy.

The ESA with an ESA Party that has declared bankruptcy may be rejected, renegotiated or deemed unenforceable.

As a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic, all of the theaters in NCM LLC's network were temporarily closed and were required to seek additional financing through various methods leading to significant levels of financial distress. On September 7, 2022, Cineworld Group plc, the parent company of Regal, and certain of its subsidiaries, including Regal, Regal Cinemas, Inc., formerly a party to an ESA, and Regal CineMedia Holdings, LLC, formerly a party to other agreements with NCM LLC and NCM, Inc., filed petitions for reorganization under Chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code in the Southern District of Texas (the "Cineworld Proceeding"). In addition, each of the other ESA Parties currently has a significant amount of indebtedness with varying maturity dates in the future.

If a bankruptcy case were commenced by or against another ESA Party, it is possible that all or part of the ESA with the applicable ESA Party could be rejected by a trustee in the bankruptcy case pursuant to Section 365 or Section 1123 of the United States Bankruptcy Code, or by the ESA Party, and thus not be enforceable. On October 21, 2022, Regal filed a motion to reject its ESA without specifying an effective date for the rejection and indicated that Regal intended to negotiate with the Company regarding the ESA. NCM LLC filed a complaint against Regal seeking declaratory relief and an injunction prohibiting Regal from breaching certain exclusivity, non-compete, non-negotiate and confidentiality provisions in the ESA by entering into a new agreement with a third-party or bringing any of the services performed by NCM LLC in-house. Following negotiations, NCM LLC and Regal entered into a Network Affiliate Transaction Agreement (the "Regal Advertising Agreement") and a separate termination agreement, pursuant to which, effective on July 14, 2023, Regal rejected and terminated its ESA and waived all rights and interests in the other agreements Regal and its affiliates were a party to with NCM LLC. In the event another ESA Party declares bankruptcy, NCM LLC may be required to litigate its rights and negotiate with the bankrupt ESA Party, which would have a negative impact on our business, operations and financial results.

In addition, as a part of the Cineworld Proceeding, Regal announced plans to optimize the number of theaters it operates and announced the closures of certain theaters. Should Regal or another ESA Party liquidate or dispose of theaters or remove theaters from our network through bankruptcy or for other business reasons, and if the acquirer, if applicable, did not agree to continue to allow us to sell advertising in the acquired theaters the number of theaters in our advertising networks would be reduced which in turn would reduce the number of advertising impressions available to us and thus could reduce our advertising revenue.

Pandemics, epidemics or disease outbreaks, such as the COVID-19 virus, have disrupted and could materially affect our business and the business of NCM LLC's network theaters in the future.

The COVID-19 Pandemic had a significant impact on our business and the business of NCM LLC's network theaters. As a result, we were required to take drastic measures to ensure our business survived the COVID-19 Pandemic, including furloughing and terminating employees, extending payment terms on accounts payable, and reducing or delaying planned

operating and capital expenditures. Additionally, many of our network's theaters were also required to take significant actions during the COVID-19 Pandemic and these actions have caused financial distress, including the Cineworld Proceeding, described further below. Even the perception that our business or the business of network's theaters may be impacted, could lead to decreased advertising expenditures and other significant disruption to our business. Future pandemics could require us to implement measures similar to those implemented in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic and there can be no assurance that a future pandemic will not lead to public safety restrictions or changes in consumer behavior that will negatively impact our business, advertiser sentiment or audience attendance.

We may not realize the anticipated benefits of additional Post-Showtime inventory or be successful in increasing the number of theaters in which NCM LLC has the right to display Post-Showtime inventory.

Beginning in 2019, NCM LLC has negotiated the right to display portions of The *Noovie*® Show after the scheduled showtime of a feature film and a Platinum Spot that is either 30 or 60 seconds of The *Noovie* Show in the trailer position directly prior to the "attached" trailers preceding the feature film, and in certain theaters an additional 30 second spot displayed in the trailer, subject to approval from the theater owner.

We believe that Post-Showtime Inventory has resulted and will continue to result in an increase in our average CPM, revenues and Adjusted OIBDA, however we may not realize any or all such benefits and the benefits of the Post-Showtime Inventory may not exceed the additional costs NCM LLC is incurring to access the Post-Showtime Inventory. Potential difficulties and uncertainties that may impair the full realization of the anticipated benefits include, among others:

- the behavior of theater patrons may change in response to the display of a portion of The *Noovie*® Show after the advertised showtime, or in response to the combination of advertising and trailers before the start of the feature film, resulting in a reduction to the number of patrons that are in a theater seat to view most or all of The *Noovie* Show;
- potential advertisers may not view the Post-Showtime Inventory as attractive due to inability to run across our entire network or view it as a premium advertising opportunity and the average CPMs for The *Noovie* Show may not increase as much as anticipated, or at all;
- NCM LLC may not be able to generate sufficient revenue to satisfy any minimum guarantees required to enter into agreements for Post-Showtime inventory or sufficient minimum average CPMs required to display the Platinum Spot in Cinemark's theaters;
- the extended length of time between the advertised showtime and the beginning of the feature film may decrease the average CPM for that portion of The *Noovie* Show appearing before the advertised showtime, which may partially or fully offset any increase in average CPM for the Post-Showtime Inventory; or
- the increased fees payable in connection with the Post-Showtime Inventory with certain counterparties may exceed the increase, if any, in revenue resulting from the access to the Post-Showtime inventory.

The anticipated benefits we expect to receive as a result of the Post-Showtime Inventory are subject to factors that we do not and cannot control. Failure to realize the anticipated benefits could result in decreases in revenue and Adjusted OIBDA and diversion of management's time and energy, and could adversely affect our business, financial condition and operating results.

Our business relies heavily on technology systems, and any failures, disruptions or cyberattacks may materially and adversely affect our operations.

In order to conduct our business, we rely on information technology networks and systems, including those managed and owned by third parties, to process, transmit and store electronic information and manage and support business processes and activities. The temporary or permanent loss of our computer equipment, internet and satellite networks, data or software systems through ransomware, data exfiltration and other cyberattacks and other security threats, termination of a material technology license or contract, operating malfunction, software virus, human error, natural disaster, power loss, terrorist attacks or other catastrophic events could disrupt our operations and cause a material negative impact and the steps that we have taken to mitigate these risks may prove to be ineffective. Although the Company maintains robust procedures, internal policies and technological security measures to safeguard its systems, including disaster recovery systems separate from our operations, robust network security and other measures to help protect our network from unauthorized access and misuse and a cyber-security insurance policy, the Company's information technology systems or systems of the ESA Parties, network affiliates or third-party service providers could be penetrated by internal or external parties intent on extracting information, corrupting information, stealing intellectual property or trade secrets or disrupting business processes. For example, some of our software vendors have previously announced that their systems were infected with malicious software, which might have impacted customers, including NCM. While NCM took prompt action to address the potential vulnerability and does not believe that there were any adverse consequences, there is no guarantee that future hacks and attacks on our network,

including those through third parties, will be unsuccessful or resolved without damage to us or our customers. If information technology failures or cyber-attacks were to interrupt our advertising delivery systems, then NCM could be unable to deliver new advertising and would only be able to display advertising that has already been distributed to theaters in the short-term. This would limit NCM's ability to generate revenue until NCM is able to manually deliver revised advertising or the systems become available. Manually delivered advertising would also limit NCM's ability to optimize the distribution of advertising to maximize impressions and best meet client expectations.

In addition to potential vulnerabilities of NCM's information technology systems, NCM and its employees are also the target of cyberattacks, including malware, phishing, social engineering and other targeted attacks, that have been, at times, successful in deceiving certain employees. While NCM's cyber security teams were able to identify and resolve these attacks prior to any significant impact on the Company, future attacks may use methods that our cyber security team is not able to identify, or our cyber security team may not identify the attacks prior to the compromise of our systems or data. Techniques used by cyber criminals to obtain unauthorized access, disable or degrade services or sabotage systems evolve frequently and may not immediately be detected, and we may be unable to implement adequate preventative measures.

Additionally, we are reliant on third parties for back-up, disaster recovery and other preventative systems that have failed in the past, may fail in the future and we are periodically required to obtain replacement services and migrate data, which may result in temporary lapses of protection and increased risk of disruption or data loss. Depending on the nature and scope of a disruption, if any technology network or systems fail and we are unable to recover in a timely manner, we may be unable to fulfill critical business functions, which could lead to a loss of clients and revenue, harm our reputation or interfere with our ability to comply with financial reporting and other regulatory requirements.

Our plans for developing additional digital or digital out-of-home revenue opportunities may not be implemented and may not be achieved.

We have invested significant resources in pursuing potential opportunities for revenue growth, which we describe under “Business—Our Strategy,” including the acquisition of data records. These valuable data records consist of both our own NCM first-party data from our owned-and-operated digital products and a variety of key second- and third-party data addressable consumer records, including location-based data that allows us to track when our audiences go to the movie theater to see *The Noovie Show* and where they go in the days and weeks afterwards. Our ability to increase our unique data records requires us to invest in third-party relationships, to comply with evolving privacy and data security laws, rules and regulations and to develop innovative digital properties that will increase the number of users of our digital entertainment and advertising network and mobile apps. Our ability to collect and leverage movie audience data is under increasing competitive and regulatory pressure and may be negatively impacted by changes to advertising technology, platform operator policies and privacy laws and regulation and may not deliver the future benefits that we are expecting. It is important that we maintain a critical mass of audience data to make our digital offering more attractive to advertisers, including national brands who buy both our national and regional advertising inventory.

Our digital out-of-home business remains at an early stage and is under significant competitive pressure with the proliferation of available alternatives in the digital out-of-home space and may not deliver the future benefits that we are expecting. If we are unable to develop relationships and advertising that is relevant to the marketplace that can be integrated with our core on-screen advertising products, and if these offerings are not attractive to our advertisers, then the digital out-of-home business may not provide significant revenue or represent a method to help expand our cinema advertising business as it matures. As such, there can be no assurance that we will recoup our investments made pursuing this business.

If we are unable to execute on products relevant to the marketplace or integrate these digital and digital out-of-home marketing products with our core on-screen and theater lobby products, or if these offerings or other data sources do not continue or are unable to provide relevant data or to grow in importance to advertising clients and agencies, they may not provide a way to help expand our advertising business as it matures and begins to compete with new or improved advertising platforms including online and mobile video services. As such, there can be no assurance that we will recoup our investments made pursuing additional revenue opportunities.

The 2025 Credit Facility contains restrictions and may not provide sufficient capital resources and flexibility for the Company in the future.

On January 24, 2025, NCM LLC as borrower, entered into a Loan and Security Agreement with U.S. Bank National Association, as lender. The agreement provides for a \$45.0 million senior secured revolving credit facility (the “2025 Credit Facility”) that matures on January 24, 2028. As of January 1, 2026, the Company has \$12.0 million outstanding. In connection with entering into the 2025 Credit Facility, NCM LLC repaid in full the \$10.0 million balance outstanding as of December 26, 2024 and terminated all commitments under its 2023 Revolving Credit Facility. While the 2025 Credit Facility provides benefits to the Company relative to the Revolving Credit Facility 2023, terms in the 2025 Credit Facility may restrict NCM LLC from taking actions, distributing cash or entering into agreements to raise additional capital, and the availability of the 2025 Credit Facility may be insufficient for NCM LLC's needs, particularly in the event of an economic

downturn. The Company's future capital resource and flexibility needs are difficult to predict at this time and will depend on (i) NCM LLC's ability to comply with the terms and conditions of the 2025 Credit Facility, (ii) ability to generate sufficient cash flow from operations and (iii) future strategic initiatives.

The personal information we collect and maintain through our data and digital services, as well as from third-party sources, may expose us to liability or cause us to incur greater operating expenses.

We collect personal information from users of our websites or apps, including those users who establish accounts, or users who view certain advertising displayed through our data and digital services. We receive certain personal information regarding consumers who enter the theaters in our network, including places visited before entering the theater and after leaving the theater, from third parties to supplement or enhance the information we collect and maintain about users of our data and digital services or individuals who view advertising or enter theaters. We also collect personal information relating to individuals who are job applicants, employees, stockholders, directors, officers and independent contractors of NCM, as well as emergency contact information they provide. In addition, we collect personal information relating to employees, owners, directors, officers and independent contractors of other organizations within the context of conducting due diligence regarding or providing or receiving a product or service to or from such organization. The collection and use of this information is governed by applicable privacy, information security and consumer protection laws and regulations that continue to evolve and may be inconsistent from one jurisdiction to another. Compliance with all such laws and regulations may increase our operating costs and adversely impact our ability to offer our clients advertising targeted to moviegoer demographics or to interact with users of our data and digital services, and could result in legal liability. For example, the failure, or perceived failure, to comply with applicable privacy information security or consumer protection-related laws or regulations or our posted privacy policies could result in actions against us by governmental entities or others. If an actual or perceived breach of our data occurs, we could incur significant costs notifying affected individuals and providing them with credit monitoring services. The market perception of the effectiveness of our security measures could also be harmed, and we could lose users of these services and the associated benefits from gathering such user data.

Changes in laws, regulations or rules relating to privacy, data security, the Internet or other areas of our data and digital services may result in the need to alter our business practices or incur greater operating expenses.

A number of statutes, regulations and rules may impact our business as a result of our data and digital services and our use of personal information we receive from third parties. For example, privacy laws that have passed or are being contemplated give, or will give, individuals additional rights with regards to the collection, use, access to, correction, deletion, selling, sharing and protection of their personal information and sensitive personal information. The costs of compliance with privacy laws, regulations and rules and other regulations relating to our data and digital services or other areas of our business, may be significant. The manner in which these and other regulations may be interpreted or enforced may subject us to potential liability, which in turn could have an adverse effect on our business, results of operations or financial condition. Changes to these and other regulations may impose additional burdens on us or otherwise adversely affect our business and financial results because of, for example, increased costs relating to legal compliance, defense against claims, adverse rulings or damages, the reduction or elimination of features, functionality or content from our data or digital services or our inability to use unique data records effectively. Likewise, any failure on our part to comply with these and other regulations may subject us to additional liabilities.

The markets for advertising are competitive and we may be unable to compete successfully.

The market for advertising is very competitive. Cinema advertising is a small component of video advertising in the U.S. and thus, we must compete with established, larger and better known national and local media platforms such as cable, broadcast and satellite television networks, ad supported video-on-demand and other video media platforms. In addition to these video advertising platforms, we compete for advertising directly with additional media platforms, including digital advertising providers, online, digital out-of-home and mobile, radio, various local print media and billboards, and other cinema advertising companies. We expect all of these competitors to devote significant effort to maintaining and growing their business, which may be at our expense. We also expect existing competitors and new entrants to the advertising business, most notably the online, digital out-of-home and mobile advertising companies and ad supported video-on-demand platforms, to constantly revise and improve their business models to meet expectations of advertising clients. NCM's position in various categories as a premium provider of advertising could deter advertisers from utilizing our services due to the high cost. Certain ad agencies may also deem NCM to be a provider of digital-out-of-home rather than video advertising, which could limit NCM's access to advertising budgets.

In addition, the pricing and volume of advertising may be affected by shifts in spending toward digital platforms from more traditional media, or toward new ways of purchasing advertising, such as through automated purchasing, dynamic advertising insertion, third parties selling local advertising posts and advertising exchanges, some or all of which may not be as advantageous to the Company as current advertising methods. Expenditures by advertisers tend to be cyclical, reflecting overall economic conditions, as well as budgeting and buying patterns. A decline in the economic prospects of advertisers,

industries, such as retail or consumer products, or the economy in general could alter current or prospective advertisers' spending priorities, including changes in prospects caused by inflationary pressures, pandemics or other events. If we cannot respond effectively to media marketplace changes, advertising market changes, new entrants or advances by our existing competitors, our business may be adversely affected.

Additionally, the number of films and mix of film ratings of the available motion pictures, such as the proportion of G and PG rated films or a shift in the types and numbers of films being shown in theaters, could cause advertisers to reduce their spending with us as the theater patrons for the available films may not represent those advertisers' target markets.

Advertising demand also impacts the price (CPM) we are able to charge our clients. Due to increased competition, combined with seasonal marketplace supply and demand characteristics, we have experienced volatility in our pricing (CPMs) over the years, with annual national CPM variances ranging from (18.1%) to 23.6% from 2015 to 2020 (excluding 2020).

If we do not continue to upgrade our technology, our business could fail to grow and revenue and operating margins could decline.

In early 2021, we implemented a new cinema advertising management system which was developed by a third-party vendor. This system replaced many of our internally developed systems and provides delivery optimization, inventory management and monetization, intelligent dynamic scheduling, increased flexibility, and workflow automation. The system also interfaces with our accounting system thus driving client invoicing and revenue recognition. Given the pervasive impact of this new system on the Company's processes, problems with the system and software could cause operational difficulties, lead to errors within our financial reporting and slow or prevent the growth of our business in the future. As we continue to move our technology to cloud-based SaaS platforms, our operating results may be impacted as operating expenses associated with the SaaS licenses may increase as our annual capital expenditure spending may decrease and this shift in costs may exceed our current estimates.

If our cinema advertising management system does not successfully provide all of the services we expect, if we are unable to continue to successfully and cost-effectively implement further upgrades to the system, which may include the integration of other third-party technology products, or if we lose access to the system through termination of the agreement or otherwise, our ability to offer our clients innovative, unique, integrated and targeted marketing products may be impacted, which could limit our future revenue growth. The Company has also been improving its technology systems to allow the delivery and sale of advertising through programmatic and self-serve channels, which has increased revenue opportunities. The Company may not be able to keep up with the pace of technology or develop solutions that meet the demands of the Company's current and future advertising clients, which would result in the loss of potential advertising opportunities in the future.

The failure to upgrade and maintain our technology allowing our advertising to reach a broader audience and allow for more targeted marketing products similar to other products in the industry could hurt our ability to compete. Under the ESAs, the ESA Parties are required to provide technology that is consistent with that in place at the signing of the ESA. We may request that the ESA Parties or other theaters in our network upgrade the equipment or software installed in their theaters, but we must negotiate as to the terms of such upgrade, including cost sharing terms, if any. If we are not able to come to an agreement on a future upgrade request, we may elect to pay for the upgrades requested which could result in our incurring significant capital expenditures that could adversely affect our profitability.

Economic uncertainty or deterioration in economic conditions may adversely impact our business, operating results or financial condition.

The financial markets have experienced extreme disruption and volatility at times. A decline in consumer spending in the U.S. may lead to decreased demand for our services or delay in payments by our advertising clients, and our results of operations and financial condition could be adversely affected. These challenging economic conditions also may result in:

- increased competition for fewer advertising and entertainment programming dollars;
- pricing pressure that may adversely affect revenue and gross margin;
- declining attendance and thus a decline in the impressions available for The *Noovie* Show;
- reduced credit availability and/or access to capital markets;
- difficulty forecasting, budgeting and planning due to limited visibility into the spending plans of current or prospective clients;
- client financial difficulty and increased risk of uncollectible accounts; or
- financial difficulty for NCM LLC's network theaters.

We are subject to risks from changes to regulations, government funding, trade policies and tariffs imposed by governments that impact our advertising clients.

Changes in regulations, government funding, trade policies and tariffs imposed by the U.S. and other governments could have an impact on our advertising clients. If our advertising clients' operating costs increase due to changes in policy, and they are unsuccessful in passing these increases along to consumers, then the advertisers will likely seek to reduce costs in other ways, including advertising. Additionally, changes in regulations, government funding, trade policies and tariffs could also have the impact of preventing our advertising clients from deploying new goods and services and reducing the related advertising dollars. The tariffs announced by the U.S. government on product imports in 2025 had an outsize impact on certain industries that are key advertising categories for us and the uncertainty caused by the tariffs impacted many of our advertisers. Our local team also sells advertising to government agencies that may be impacted if the level of government funding is reduced or eliminated. The uncertainty regarding the ultimate impact of any changes in regulations, government funding, trade policies or tariffs could also impact our advertisers as they continue to determine changes needed to their businesses.

Our Adjusted OIBDA is derived from high margin advertising revenue. Our contractual costs will grow over time, and the reduction in spending by or loss of a national advertiser or group of local advertisers or failure to grow our advertising revenue in line with these costs could have a meaningful adverse effect on our business.

The ESAs and certain of our network affiliate agreements include automatic annual cost or fee increases. The theater access fees under the ESAs are composed of a fixed payment per patron, increasing on a regular basis and a fixed payment per digital screen connected to the DCN, increasing annually by 5%, and certain of our network affiliate agreements include annual increases in the minimum fee per patron payable. If NCM LLC further amends the ESAs or network affiliate agreements in response to market conditions or in connection with the bankruptcy of a counterparty, the costs could increase. If we are unable to grow our high margin advertising revenue at a rate at least equal to that of our contractual obligations, our margins and results would be negatively affected.

We generate all of our operating income and Adjusted OIBDA from our high margin advertising business. Advertisers will not continue to do business with us if they believe our advertising medium is ineffective, unpredictable or overly expensive or lacks sufficient scale. In addition, large advertisers generally have set advertising budgets, of which cinema advertising may only be a small portion. Reductions in the size of advertisers' budgets due to local or national economic trends, epidemics, pandemics, other natural disasters or similar events, a shift in spending to other advertising mediums, perception of uncertainty in advertising mediums, or other factors could result in lower spending on our advertising inventory. Advertisers are spending in the scatter market closer to the start date of their advertising campaign. A substantial portion of our advertising revenue relates to contracts with terms of a month or less, and clients have many video media choices and can adjust where ads are placed up until their airdates without the risk of securing desired impressions. We have previously been successful in securing favorable upfront advertising agreements, but as advertising spending shifts to the scatter market closer to the start date of advertising campaigns, our ability to maintain high CPMs in the upfront markets may decrease and it is more difficult for the Company to plan and forecast revenue. Additionally, since most of our advertising contracts are tied to a specified number of impressions over a period of time, if we do not properly forecast the number of impressions available over a period of advertising or if too few impressions are available, it could result in underdelivery requiring us to provide additional time to satisfy advertiser's contracts rather than additional revenue, or if too many impressions are available, it could result in increased fixed fee per patron fees to theaters without a corresponding increase in revenue. If we are unable to remain competitive and provide value to our advertising clients, they may reduce their advertising purchases or stop placing advertisements with us. Even the loss of a small number of clients on large contracts that we are not able to replace would negatively affect our results.

We also derive a significant portion of our revenue from our contracts with our content partners, courtesy PSAs and the ESA Parties' agreements to purchase on-screen advertising for their beverage concessionaires. We are not direct parties to the agreements between the ESA Parties' and their beverage concessionaires but expect that each ESA Party will have an agreement with a beverage concessionaire to provide advertising for the foreseeable future. The Company did not have any agencies through which it sourced advertising revenue that accounted for 10% or more of the Company's gross outstanding receivable balance as of January 1, 2026. The Company had one agency through which it sourced advertising revenue that accounted for 14.7% of the Company's gross outstanding receivable balance as of December 26, 2024. The Company had no agencies through which it sourced advertising revenue that accounted for 10% or more of the Company's gross outstanding receivable balance as of December 28, 2023. During the year ended December 26, 2024, the Company did not have a customer that accounted for 10% or more of the Company's revenue. During the years ended January 1, 2026 and December 28, 2023, the Company had one customer that accounted for 11.0% and 11.2%, respectively, of the Company's revenue. Because we derive a significant percentage of our total revenue from a relatively small number of large companies, the loss of one or more as a customer could decrease our revenue and adversely affect current and future operating results.

Our contracts for theater advertising allow certain counterparties to engage in activities that might compete with certain elements of our business, which could reduce our revenue and growth potential.

The ESAs and network affiliate agreements contain certain limited exceptions to our exclusive right to use the counterparties' theaters for our advertising business. Certain counterparties have the right to enter into a limited number of strategic cross-marketing relationships with third-party, unaffiliated businesses for the purpose of generating increased attendance or revenue (other than revenue from the sale of advertising). Some of these strategic marketing relationships can include the use of on-screen, LEN and certain types of lobby promotions and can be provided at no cost, but only for the purpose of promoting the products or services of those businesses while at the same time promoting the theater circuit or the movie-going experience and some of these exceptions are broader. NCM has limited rights or does not have the right to advertise in certain theater lobbies or has agreed to allow the counterparty to sell certain types of inventory on their own behalf. The use of LEN or lobby promotions or other inventory by the theater counterparties for these advertisements and programs could result in the theater counterparties creating relationships with advertisers that could adversely affect our advertising revenue and profitability, as well as the potential we have to grow that advertising revenue in the future. In particular, the LEN and lobby promotions represented approximately 0.6% and 0.5% of our total advertising revenue for the year ended January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, respectively.

Some of our exhibitors also have the right to install a network of video monitors in the theater lobbies in excess of those required to be installed for the LEN to be used to display trailers, studio content and other theater advertising. The presence of this additional lobby video network could reduce the effectiveness of our LEN, thereby reducing our current LEN advertising revenue and profitability and adversely affecting future revenue potential associated with that marketing platform. Other network affiliates also have the right to display advertising in the lobby or other areas of their theaters that could potentially conflict with our on-screen advertising.

We depend upon our senior management and our business may be adversely affected if we cannot retain or replace them.

Our success depends in part upon the retention of our experienced senior management with specialized industry, sales and technical knowledge or industry relationships. In November 2025, the Company's President of Sales, Marketing and Partnerships departed the Company following the elimination of the position. If we are not able to find qualified internal or external replacements for critical members of our senior management team, the loss of these key employees could have a material negative impact on our ability to effectively pursue our business strategy and our relationships with advertisers, exhibitors, media and content partners. While the Company has been able to retain our senior management, there is no guarantee that the Company will continue to be able to recruit experienced replacements, or that the Company will not be required to institute additional retention or incentive programs in order to retain senior management. We do not have key-man life insurance covering any of our employees.

Our use of AI in our offerings may not result in the expected benefits.

We continue to consider areas for development of artificial intelligence technologies and solutions to increase the efficiency of our business and increase value to our customers. The algorithms and models used in generative AI systems may have limitations, including biases, errors, or inability to handle certain data types or scenarios, and the costs of our investments in AI may also exceed the value provided. We may also enable or offer AI solutions that are controversial for various reasons that could lead to brand or reputational harm. We also have certain advertisers that have used AI in the development of advertising to be displayed onscreen, which may be viewed unfavorably by theater patrons and result in increased rates of creative rejection by our theater exhibitors.

The ESA Parties and our network affiliates are subject to substantial government regulation, which could limit their current business, slow their future growth of locations and screens and in turn impact our business and slow our growth prospects.

The ESA Parties and our network affiliates are subject to various federal, state and local laws, regulations and administrative practices affecting their movie theater business, including provisions regulating antitrust, health, safety and sanitation standards (including in connection with the COVID-19 Pandemic or other public health events), access for those with disabilities, environmental, and licensing. Some of these laws and regulations also apply directly to us and NCM LLC. Changes in existing laws or implementation of new laws, regulations and practices could have a significant impact on the ESA Parties', our network affiliates' and our respective businesses. For example, during a portion of the COVID-19 Pandemic, health and safety laws restricted the ability of the ESA Parties and network affiliates from opening their theaters and operating at full capacity, which significantly impacted their and our businesses.

We may be unable to realize the expected benefits and synergies of any acquisitions or investments.

Our success will depend, in part, on our ability to expand our product offerings and grow our business. In some circumstances, we may determine to do so through the acquisition of or investments in businesses or technologies rather than through internal development. For example, in November 2025, we acquired Spotlight Cinema Networks to unlock new

advertising and preshow entertainment inventory across theaters nationwide and in key markets. During 2025, we also agreed to make investments in various companies through cash and advertising. The pursuit of future acquisitions or investments may divert the attention of management and in many cases cause us to incur expenses as part of identifying, investigating and pursuing transactions, whether or not they are consummated.

In order to realize the expected benefits and synergies of any acquisitions or consolidated investments, we must meet a number of significant challenges, including integration of operations and technologies, managing the business, retaining and assimilating employees, retaining key customers and vendors and implementing updated internal controls and processes. If we are unable to successfully integrate these businesses, the expected benefits may not be available to our stockholders in the future. Depending upon the success of the underlying companies invested in, we may recognize charges within earnings due to the impairment of our investments.

We may be unable to effectively manage changes to our business strategy to continue the growth of our advertising inventory and network.

If we do not effectively implement our strategy, we may not be able to continue our historical growth. To effectively execute on our strategy to expand our digital offerings and continue to grow our inventory, we will need to develop additional products or obtain access to third-party digital inventory. These enhancements and improvements could require an additional allocation of financial and management resources and acquisition of talent. High turnover, loss of specialized talent or insufficient capital could also place significant demands on management, the success of the organization and our strategic outlook. Our ability to invest in our existing digital business, our new digital out-of-home business and other ventures has been and will continue to be negatively impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic, NCM LLC's Chapter 11 Case, and the current industry and economic environment, which may decrease the growth of these businesses.

The amount of in-theater inventory we have to sell is limited by the length of The *Noovie*® Show. In order to maintain in-theater growth we will need to expand the number of theaters and screens in our network. If we lose a significant number of theaters or are unable to expand our network, our revenue and operating results could be adversely impacted.

Our revenue and Adjusted OIBDA fluctuate from quarter to quarter and may be unpredictable, which could increase the volatility of our stock price.

A weak advertising market, the shift in spending of a major client from one quarter to another, the performance of films released or the mix of attendance from the type and rating of films in a given quarter, a disruption in the release schedule of films or changes in the television scatter market could significantly affect quarter-to-quarter results or even affect annual results. Our revenue and operating results are seasonal in nature, coinciding with the timing of marketing expenditures by our advertising clients and, to a lesser extent, the attendance patterns within the film exhibition industry, which have historically been higher during the second, third and fourth fiscal quarters. Because our results may vary from quarter to quarter and may be unpredictable, our financial results for one quarter cannot necessarily be compared to another quarter or the same quarter in prior years and may not be indicative of our financial performance in subsequent quarters. Additionally, the bankruptcy of one of NCM LLC's significant network theater circuits, or negative news regarding the theater industry, cinema advertising generally or us could lead to increased volatility in revenue from quarter to quarter. These variations in our financial results could contribute to volatility in our stock price.

Our business, services or technology may infringe on intellectual property rights owned by others, which may interfere with our ability to provide services or expose us to increased liability or expense, or otherwise may be affected by our efforts to protect our intellectual property or restrictions or obligations in third-party licenses.

Our business uses a variety of intellectual property rights, including copyrights, trademarks, trade secrets, domain names and patents or patentable ideas in the provision of our advertising services, the websites we operate at *ncm.com* and *Noovie.com*, our digital gaming products including *Noovie* Trivia and the features and functionality, content and software we make available through those websites and apps. We rely on our own intellectual property rights, as well as intellectual property rights obtained from third parties (including through open-source licenses), to conduct our business and provide our in-theater, data, digital and creative services. We may incur expenses, some of which may be significant, in developing, protecting, maintaining, and defending our intellectual property rights or licensing intellectual property from third parties.

In some instances, we may not be able to or may choose not to protect, maintain or defend our intellectual property rights or the laws of certain foreign countries may not protect our intellectual property rights to the same extent as do the laws of the U.S.

We may discover that our business or the technology or methods we use to operate our business infringes patent, trademark, copyright, publicity rights, or other intellectual property rights owned by others or is otherwise negatively impacted by restrictions imposed by our obligations under third-party intellectual property licenses. In addition, our competitors or others may claim rights in patents, trademarks, copyrights, publicity rights, or other intellectual property rights that will prevent, limit or interfere with our ability to provide our in-theater, data, or digital services either in the U.S. or in

international markets. We may incur significant costs in protecting our own intellectual property rights or defending or settling intellectual property infringement claims and may face significant damage awards (including the potential for awards of attorneys' fees) if we are found to be infringing third-party intellectual property rights.

Our in-theater, data and digital services facilitate the distribution of content, and we create content for others. This content includes advertising-related content, as well as movie, television, music, gaming and other media content, much of which is obtained from third parties. Our apps, websites and social media channels also include features enabling users to upload or add their own content and modify certain content. As a distributor of content, we face potential liability for negligence, copyright, patent, trademark or publicity infringement, or other claims based on the content that we distribute or create for others. We or entities that we license or receive content from or distribute content through may not be adequately insured or indemnified to cover claims of these types or liability that may be imposed on us.

Risks Related to Our Corporate Structure

We are a holding company with no operations of our own, and we depend on distributions and payments under the NCM LLC operating and management services agreements from NCM LLC to meet our ongoing obligations.

We are a holding company with no operations of our own and have no independent ability to generate cash flow other than interest income on cash balances or other securities owned. Consequently, our ability to obtain operating funds primarily depends upon distributions and payments under the NCM LLC operating and management services agreement from NCM LLC. The distribution of cash flows and other transfers of funds by NCM LLC to us are subject to statutory and contractual restrictions based upon NCM LLC's financial performance, including NCM LLC's compliance with the covenants in the 2025 Credit Facility and the NCM LLC Operating Agreement. The 2025 Credit Facility may limit NCM LLC's ability to distribute cash to its members, including us, based upon certain financial tests, with exceptions for, among other things, payment of our income taxes and a management fee to NCM, Inc. pursuant to the terms of the management services agreement. The declaration of future dividends on our common stock will be at the discretion of our Board of Directors and will depend upon many factors, including NCM LLC's results of operations, financial condition, earnings, capital requirements, limitations in the 2025 Credit Facility and legal requirements. In the event NCM LLC fails to comply with these covenants and is unable to distribute cash to us quarterly, NCM, Inc.'s ability to make distributions or pay other expenses outside the ordinary course of business may be limited.

Pursuant to the management services agreement between us and NCM LLC, NCM LLC makes payments to us to fund our day-to-day operating expenses, such as payroll. However, if NCM LLC has insufficient cash flow to make the payments pursuant to the management services agreement, we may be unable to cover these expenses.

As a member of NCM LLC, we incur income taxes on our proportionate share of any net taxable income of NCM LLC. The 2025 Credit Facility is structured to allow NCM LLC to distribute cash to its members (including us and NCM LLC's other members, if any) in amounts sufficient to cover their tax liabilities and management fees, if any. To the extent that NCM LLC has insufficient cash flow to make such payments, it could have a negative impact on our business, financial condition, results of operations or prospects.

The Company's actual financial results following NCM LLC's emergence from bankruptcy may not be comparable to the Company's historical financial information or to NCM LLC's projections filed with the Bankruptcy Court.

The Company has historically consolidated NCM LLC's financial statements, but upon the filing of the Chapter 11 Case and in accordance with applicable GAAP, the Company concluded that NCM, Inc. no longer controlled NCM LLC for accounting purposes as of April 11, 2023, the date on which NCM LLC filed its Chapter 11 Case and NCM LLC was deconsolidated from the Company's consolidated financial statements prospectively. On August 7, 2023, and subsequent to NCM LLC's emergence from bankruptcy, NCM, Inc. regained control of NCM LLC. The reconsolidation was treated for accounting purposes as a business combination under *ASC 805—Business Combinations* and accordingly, the purchase price was allocated to the assets acquired and liabilities assumed based on their estimated fair values as of the date of acquisition, the Effective Date. Accordingly, the Company's future results of operations, financial condition and business may not be comparable to the results of operations, financial condition and business reflected in our historical financial statements.

In connection with filings made with the Bankruptcy Court and as cleansing materials after negotiations with NCM LLC's creditors, the Company disclosed projected financial information regarding NCM LLC's future prospects. Those projections were prepared solely for the purpose of negotiations and the bankruptcy proceedings and have not been, and will not be, updated on an ongoing basis and should not be relied upon by investors. At the time they were prepared, the projections reflected numerous assumptions concerning our anticipated future performance with respect to prevailing and anticipated market and economic conditions that were and remain beyond our control and that may not materialize. Projections are inherently subject to substantial and numerous uncertainties and to a wide variety of significant business, economic and competitive risks and the assumptions underlying the projections and/or valuation estimates may prove to be

wrong in material respects. Actual results may vary significantly from those contemplated by the projections. As a result, investors should not rely on these projections.

NCM LLC's other equityholders or their affiliates, as well as our largest stockholders, may have interests that differ from those of our public stockholders and they may be able to influence our affairs.

As of the Effective Date, NCM Inc. was the only beneficial owner of NCM LLC's membership units, but AMC and Cinemark continue to have rights to receive additional units pursuant to the terms of the Common Unit Adjustment Agreement. As of January 1, 2026, Blantyre Capital Limited ("Blantyre Capital"), our largest stockholder, has beneficial ownership of 27,144,639 shares of our common stock, representing 29.1% of the Company's shares outstanding. Additionally, the Company entered into a Director Designation Agreement (the "Designation Agreement") among the Company, the Consenting Creditor Designation Committee (the "Designation Committee") and Blantyre Capital in accordance with the Plan. The Designation Agreement provided for the designation of up to six directors, three of whom must be independent, by the Designation Committee and Blantyre Capital with up to two of the directors designated by Blantyre Capital. The number of directors designated will vary based on the ownership level of the Consenting Creditors under the Designation Agreement. In 2025, four directors were appointed under the Designation Agreement. As a result, these stockholders could be in a position to influence or control to some degree the outcome of matters requiring stockholder approval, including the adoption of amendments to our certificate of incorporation and the approval of mergers and other significant corporate transactions. Their influence or control of our Company and NCM LLC may have the effect of delaying or promoting a change of control of our Company and may adversely affect the voting and other rights of other stockholders.

It is possible that the interests of these stockholders may in some circumstances conflict with our interests and the interests of our other stockholders. For example, Blantyre Capital is in the business of making investments in companies and may hold, and may from time to time in the future acquire, interests in or provide advice to businesses that directly or indirectly compete with us. As another example, Cinemark may own shares of NCM, Inc. stock and may have different tax positions from us, especially in light of the TRA that provides for the payment by us to Cinemark of 90% of the amount of any tax benefits that we actually realize, or in some cases are deemed to realize, due to Cinemark's portion of certain tax assets. This could influence Cinemark's decisions regarding whether and when we should dispose of assets, and whether and when we or NCM LLC should incur indebtedness.

The original agreements between us and the ESA Parties were made in the context of an affiliated relationship and may contain different terms than comparable agreements with unaffiliated third parties.

The ESAs and the other contractual agreements that we have with the ESA Parties were originally negotiated in the context of an affiliated relationship in which representatives of the ESA Parties and their affiliates comprised our entire Board of Directors. As a result, the financial provisions and the other terms of these agreements, such as covenants, contractual obligations on our part and on the part of the ESA Parties and termination and default provisions may be less favorable to us than terms that we might have obtained in negotiations with unaffiliated third parties in similar circumstances.

Our certificate of incorporation and bylaws contain anti-takeover protections that may discourage or prevent strategic transactions, including a takeover of our Company, even if such a transaction would be beneficial to our stockholders.

Provisions contained in our certificate of incorporation and bylaws, the NCM LLC Operating Agreement, and provisions of the Delaware General Corporation Law ("DGCL"), could delay or prevent a third-party from entering into a strategic transaction with us, even if such a transaction would benefit our stockholders. For example, our certificate of incorporation and bylaws:

- authorize the issuance of "blank check" preferred stock that could be issued by our Board of Directors to increase the number of outstanding shares, making a takeover more difficult and expensive;
- prohibit stockholder action by written consent; and
- do not permit cumulative voting in the election of directors, which would otherwise allow less than a majority of stockholders to elect director candidates.

These restrictions could keep us from pursuing relationships with strategic partners and from raising additional capital, which could impede our ability to expand our business and strengthen our competitive position. These restrictions could also limit stockholder value by impeding a sale of us or NCM LLC. Further, these restrictions could restrict or limit certain investors from owning our stock.

Any future issuance of membership units by NCM LLC and subsequent redemption of such units for common stock could dilute the voting power of our existing common stockholders and adversely affect the market value of our common stock.

The Common Unit Adjustment Agreement and the ESA with Cinemark provide that NCM LLC will issue common membership units to account for changes in attendance associated with the theaters that Cinemark operates and which are

made part of our advertising network. Historically, Cinemark has generally been issued additional common membership units each year. Each common membership unit may be redeemed in exchange for, at our option, shares of our common stock on a one-for-one basis or a cash payment equal to the market price of one share of our common stock. Other than the maximum number of authorized shares of common stock in our certificate of incorporation, there is no limit on the number of shares of our common stock that we may issue upon redemption of Cinemark's common membership units in NCM LLC. For further information, refer to Note 6 to the Consolidated Financial Statements included elsewhere in this document.

Our future issuance of preferred stock could dilute the voting power of our common stockholders and adversely affect the market value of our common stock.

In connection with NCM LLC's Plan and the terms of the Restructuring Support Agreement, NCM, Inc. issued 5,000,000 shares of Series A Preferred Stock. The Series A Preferred Stock had no dividends or other economic rights, but voted with the shares of Common Stock with a number of votes per share of Series A Preferred Stock equal to 217.47 shares of common stock. The Series A Preferred Stock was cancelled on August 7, 2023 and no shares remain outstanding. Additionally, on the Effective Date and in connection the consummation of the transactions contemplated by the Plan, the Company issued 50 shares of Series B Preferred Stock to Mr. Lesinski. The Series B Preferred Stock has no voting rights, but shall be entitled to receive cumulative dividends at a dividend rate of 11.0% on the per share liquidation value of \$1,000 per share. The future issuance of shares of preferred stock with voting rights may adversely affect the voting power of the holders of our other classes of voting stock, either by diluting the voting power of our other classes of voting stock if they vote together as a single class, or by giving the holders of any such preferred stock the right to block an action on which they have a separate class vote even if the action were approved by the holders of our other classes of voting stock.

The future issuance of shares of preferred stock with dividend or conversion rights, liquidation preferences or other economic terms favorable to the holders of preferred stock could adversely affect the market price for our common stock by making an investment in the common stock less attractive. For example, investors in the common stock may not wish to purchase common stock at a price above the conversion price of a series of convertible preferred stock because the holders of the preferred stock would effectively be entitled to purchase common stock at the lower conversion price causing economic dilution to the holders of common stock.

If we are determined to be an investment company, we would become subject to burdensome regulatory requirements and our business activities could be restricted.

We do not believe that we are an "investment company" under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended. As sole manager of NCM LLC, we control NCM LLC, and our interest in NCM LLC is not an "investment security" as that term is used in the Investment Company Act of 1940. If we were to stop participating in the management of NCM LLC, our interest in NCM LLC could be deemed an "investment security" for purposes of the Investment Company Act of 1940. Generally, a company is an "investment company" if it owns investment securities having a value exceeding 40% of the value of its total assets (excluding U.S. government securities and cash items). Our sole material asset is our equity interest in NCM LLC, and we and NCM LLC intend to conduct our operations so that we are not deemed an investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940. However, a determination that we are an investment company would cause us to become subject to registration and other burdensome requirements of the Investment Company Act, which could restrict our business activities, including our ability to issue securities, limitations on our capital structure and our ability to enter into transactions with our affiliates. This may make it impractical for us to continue our business as currently conducted and could have a material negative impact on our financial performance and operations.

Our TRA with Cinemark is expected to reduce the amount of overall cash flow that would otherwise be available to us and will increase our potential exposure to the financial condition of Cinemark.

Our initial public offering and related transactions have the effect of reducing the amounts NCM, Inc. would otherwise pay in the future to various tax authorities as a result of an increase in its proportionate share of tax basis in NCM LLC's tangible and intangible assets. We have agreed in our TRA with Cinemark to pay to Cinemark 90% of the amount by which NCM, Inc.'s tax payments to various tax authorities are reduced as a result of the increase in tax basis associated with Cinemark's share of certain tax assets. After paying these reduced amounts to tax authorities, if it is determined as a result of an income tax audit or examination that any amount of NCM, Inc.'s claimed tax benefits should not have been available, NCM, Inc. may be required to pay additional taxes and possibly penalties and interest to one or more tax authorities. If this were to occur and if Cinemark was insolvent or bankrupt or otherwise unable to make payment under its indemnification obligation under the TRA, then NCM, Inc.'s financial condition could be negatively impacted.

The substantial number of shares that are eligible for sale could cause the market price for our common stock to decline or make it difficult for us to sell equity securities in the future.

We cannot predict the effect, if any, that market sales of shares of common stock by any of our significant stockholders will have on the market price of our common stock from time to time. Sales of substantial amounts of shares of

our common stock in the public market, or the perception that those sales will occur, could cause the market price of our common stock to decline or make future offerings of our equity securities more difficult. If we are unable to sell equity securities at times and prices that we deem appropriate, we may be unable to fund growth. Additionally, once equity awards held by our employees become vested and/or exercisable, as applicable, to the extent that they are not held by one of our affiliates, the shares acquired upon vesting or exercise are freely tradable.

Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments

None.

Item 1C. Cybersecurity

Risk Management and Strategy

We maintain a cybersecurity management program designed to identify, assess, manage, mitigate and respond to cybersecurity threats and incidents. We review our program design on at least a quarterly basis and update as needed to address the risks and threats that our corporate security team has identified. Our team also benchmarks our program to industry recognized frameworks, including the International Organization for Standardization. The Audit Committee of the Board of Directors receives regular reports on cybersecurity risks and evaluates these risks as a part of their enterprise risk review.

Our teams also rely on third-party diagnostic tools and periodic audits to ensure that our program is performing as designed and in-line with applicable standards. Our Chief Information Officer oversees a security committee made up of professionals on our corporate security and other information technology teams to review the results of these audits and recommend improvements. Prior to engaging a third party to provide services, our information technology team performs a risk assessment to determine the level of review of the vendor needed based on the nature of the services to be provided and type of information that may be shared. The resulting vendor review may include requiring the vendor to provide the results of external audits. We continue to monitor our vendors throughout their engagements with us to ensure they have complied with their contractual obligations, including service level agreements and other contractual standards.

We have also established an incident response plan to assess, identify and manage specific potential cybersecurity incidents. This plan requires the corporate security team to notify a response team. The response team assesses the risks of the identified potential incident and determines an appropriate response based on the risks identified. The response team then reports on the incident to senior management and, if necessary, a subset of our financial disclosure committee to determine if the cybersecurity incident should be reported in our public filings.

We face cybersecurity risks in connection with our business operations. Although such risks have not materially affected us, including our business strategy, results of operations or financial condition, to date, we have experienced threats to our data and systems, including social engineering threats, denial of service attacks, malware and computer virus attacks. For more information about the cybersecurity risks we face, see Item 1A—*Risk Factors*.

Governance

Board Oversight—The Audit Committee of the Board of Directors oversees the Company’s cybersecurity program. The cybersecurity team updates the Audit Committee on at least a quarterly basis to discuss the effectiveness of the Company’s risk management program, potential and identified threats, remediation and mitigation plans, and other topics as requested by the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee regularly reports to the full Board of Directors and management reports on specific matters as requested by the Board of Directors.

Management’s Role—The Company’s Chief Information Officer is responsible for the Company’s cybersecurity team and for reporting to the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors. The Company’s corporate security team reports directly to the Chief Information Officer. Our Chief Information Officer has more than thirty years of experience managing communication networks, data centers, information technology teams, systems administration and cybersecurity in the media and advertising industry. Our corporate security team is similarly composed of seasoned professionals with significant experience in the field. The Chief Information Officer regularly informs the Company’s senior management regarding the prevention, detection, mitigation and remediation of cybersecurity incidents and supervises such efforts. The corporate security team has a broad range of experience selecting, deploying and operating cybersecurity technologies initiatives and seeks to ensure that each team stays educated on emerging technologies and threats.

Item 2. Properties

The Company's headquarters are located in Centennial, Colorado. As of January 1, 2026, the Company also leases offices in other cities, including, New York, Los Angeles and Chicago. We own no material real property. We believe that all of our present facilities are adequate for our current needs and that additional space is available for future expansion on acceptable terms.

Item 3. Legal Proceedings

We are sometimes involved in legal proceedings arising in the ordinary course of business. We are not aware of any litigation currently pending that would have a material adverse effect on our operating results or financial condition.

Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures

Not applicable.

Information about our Executive Officers

Shown below are the names, ages as of the filing date of this Form 10-K and current positions of our executive officers. There are no family relationships between any of the persons listed below, or between any of such persons and any of the directors of the Company or any persons nominated or chosen by the Company to become a director or executive officer of the Company.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Position</u>
Thomas F. Lesinski.....	66	Chief Executive Officer
Ronnie Y. Ng.....	46	Chief Financial Officer
Maria V. Woods.....	57	Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary

Thomas F. Lesinski. Mr. Lesinski was appointed Chief Executive Officer of NCM, Inc. in August 2019. Prior to his current position, Mr. Lesinski served as the Non-Employee Chairman of the Board of Directors of NCM, Inc. since August 2018 and as a member of the Board of Directors of NCM, Inc. since 2014. In addition to his roles on the Board of Directors of NCM, Inc., Mr. Lesinski also served as the Chief Executive Officer of Sonar Entertainment, an independent entertainment studio, from January 2016 to August 2019. Mr. Lesinski served as the founder and CEO of Energi Entertainment, a multi-media content production company, from August 2014 until December 2015. From 2013 to 2014, Mr. Lesinski was President of Digital Content and Distribution at Legendary Entertainment, a leading media company dedicated to owning, producing and delivering content to mainstream audiences with a targeted focus on the powerful fandom demographic. Prior to that role, from 2006 to 2013, Mr. Lesinski served as President, Digital Entertainment at Paramount Pictures, a global producer and distributor of filmed entertainment. Mr. Lesinski also served as President of Worldwide Home Entertainment at Paramount Pictures for three years, prior to which, he spent ten years as an Executive Vice President and General Manager at Warner Bros. Entertainment and was a Managing Director for an advertising agency.

Ronnie Y. Ng. Mr. Ng was appointed Chief Financial Officer in September 2021. Mr. Ng previously served as the Chief Financial Officer and Head of Corporate Development of Allen Media Group from October 2018 until September 2021 where he led the company's finance organization and oversaw multiple large scale acquisitions and the refinancing of the company's capital structure. Before joining Allen Media Group, Mr. Ng served as Vice President in the Fixed Income Group for TCW Group from 2013 to 2018 where he invested in investment grade corporate bonds, high-yield bonds and leveraged loans. Prior to joining TCW Group, Mr. Ng was an investment banker for approximately 10 years. From 2006 to 2012 he was an Executive Director at UBS Investment Bank's Global Media Group where he managed, advised, and structured various financings and mergers and acquisition transactions. Previously, Mr. Ng held similar investment banking positions from 2003 to 2006 at Deutsche Bank and Houlihan Lokey. Prior to Mr. Ng's investment banking career, he provided financial and accounting due diligence services for merger and acquisition and financing transactions at Arthur Andersen. Mr. Ng holds a Bachelor of Science degree in finance from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and was a licensed general securities representative (Series 7) and Uniform Securities Agent (Series 63).

Maria V. Woods. Ms. Woods was appointed Executive Vice President and General Counsel in September 2021 and promoted to Chief Legal Officer and Secretary in December 2025. Ms. Woods previously served in several key leadership roles on NCM's legal team from 2010 through 2015, rising to the role of National CineMedia, LLC's EVP and General Counsel. Ms. Woods previously served as General Counsel for Lucky's Market from June of 2015 to June of 2020, including during its bankruptcy proceedings in January of 2020. In between her role at Lucky's Market and returning to NCM in September 2021, Ms. Woods served as General Counsel and Secretary at JumpCloud, Inc., providing strategic legal counsel for all legal aspects of the company's SaaS identity management business, including, corporate governance, merger and acquisition activity, financing and stock repurchases and commercial contracting and served as General Counsel & Secretary at ONE Group Hospitality, Inc. Earlier in her career, she was Associate General Counsel at Einstein Noah Restaurant Group, Inc. and Assistant General Counsel at Sun Microsystems, Inc. She began her career at Holme Roberts & Owen (now Bryan Cave) in Denver. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Communications Studies from the University of Iowa and a Juris Doctorate from the University of Denver Sturm College of Law.

PART II

Item 5. Market for Registrant’s Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

Market Information

Our common stock, \$0.01 par value, is traded on The Nasdaq Global Select Market under the symbol “NCMI”. There were 205 stockholders of record as of February 20, 2026 (does not include beneficial holders of shares held in “street name”).

Dividend Policy

At the discretion of the Board of Directors, the Company will consider returning a portion of its free cash flow to stockholders. The declaration, payment, timing and amount of any future dividends payable will be at the sole discretion of the Board of Directors who will take into account general economic and advertising market business conditions, the Company’s financial condition, available cash, current and anticipated cash needs and any other factors that the Board of Directors considers relevant.

Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

The table below provides information about shares purchased in connection with the Company’s share repurchase program during the three months ended January 1, 2026.

<u>Period</u>	<u>(a) Total Number of Shares Purchased</u>	<u>(b) Average Price Paid Per Share</u>	<u>(c) Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs (1)</u>	<u>(d) Maximum Number (or Approximate Dollar Value) of Shares that may yet be Purchased under the Plans or Programs (in millions) (1)</u>
September 26, 2025 through October 23, 2025.....	117,185	\$ 4.08	117,185	\$ 67.6
October 24, 2025 through November 27, 2025.....	238,598	\$ 4.02	238,598	\$ 66.7
November 28, 2025 through January 1, 2026	477,264	\$ 3.95	477,264	\$ 64.8
Total for the quarter ended January 1, 2026.....	<u>833,047</u>	<u>\$ 3.99</u>	<u>833,047</u>	<u>\$ 64.8</u>

(1) On March 18, 2024, the Board of Directors of the Company approved a stock repurchase program under which the Company is authorized to use assets of the Company to repurchase up to \$100.0 million of shares of the Company’s Common Stock, exclusive of any fees, commissions or other expenses related to such repurchases, from time to time over a period of three years. Shares may be repurchased under the program through open market purchases, block trades, or accelerated or other structured share repurchase programs.

Item 6. [RESERVED]

Item 7. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

As discussed in the forepart of this report, some of the information in this Annual Report on Form 10-K includes “forward-looking statements” within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”). All statements other than statements of historical facts included in this Form 10-K, including, without limitation, certain statements under “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” may constitute forward-looking statements. In some cases, you can identify these “forward-looking statements” by the specific words, including but not limited to “may,” “should,” “expects,” “plans,” “anticipates,” “believes,” “estimates,” “predicts,” “potential” or “continue” or the negative of those words and other comparable words. These forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties. The following discussion and analysis should be read in conjunction with our historical financial statements and the related notes thereto included elsewhere in this document. In the following discussion and analysis, the term net income refers to net income attributable to NCM, Inc.

This following section of this Form 10-K generally discusses fiscal 2025 and fiscal 2024 items and year-to-year comparisons between fiscal 2025 and fiscal 2024. Discussions of fiscal 2023 items and year-to-year comparisons between fiscal 2024 and fiscal 2023 that are not included in this Form 10-K can be found in “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” in Part II, Item 7 of the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 26, 2024.

Overview

National CineMedia is the largest cinema advertising platform in the U.S. With unparalleled reach and scale, NCM connects brands to sought-after young, diverse audiences through the power of movies and pop culture. A premium video, full-funnel marketing solution for advertisers, NCM enhances marketers’ ability to measure and drive results. We currently derive revenue principally from the sale of advertising to national, regional and local businesses in The *Noovie*® Show, our cinema advertising and entertainment show seen on movie screens across the U.S. within the NCM Network, and the *Cinelife*® Show within the Spotlight Cinema Network. We present multiple formats of The *Noovie*® Show and *Cinelife*® Show depending on the theater circuit in which it runs, with almost all theater circuits including Post-Showtime advertising inventory after the advertised showtime. The movie trailers presented by the theater circuits that run before the feature film are not part of our preshows.

We also sell advertising on our LEN, a series of strategically-placed screens located in movie theater lobbies, as well as other forms of advertising, promotions and experiences in theater lobbies. In addition, we sell digital advertising through the *NCMx*™ suite of products and through our *Noovie* digital properties. We also sell advertising across a variety of complementary out of home venues. In combination, our multimedia advertising connects brands with audiences across all screens, both in theaters and beyond, before, during and after their moviegoing experience. We have long-term ESAs (approximately 15.6 weighted average years) with the ESA Parties and multi-year agreements with network affiliates, which expire at various dates between March 31, 2026 and July 13, 2033, with our largest affiliate agreement expiring on July 13, 2033. The weighted average remaining term of the ESAs and the network affiliate agreements is 11.8 years as of January 1, 2026. The ESAs and network affiliate agreements grant NCM LLC exclusive rights in their theaters to sell advertising, subject to limited exceptions. Our advertising preshows and LEN programming are distributed predominantly through our proprietary DCN and Media Director.

Management focuses on several measurements that we believe provide us with the necessary ratios and key performance indicators to manage our business, determine how we are performing versus our internal goals and targets, and against the performance of our competitors and other benchmarks in the marketplace in which we operate. We focus on many operating metrics including revenue, Adjusted OIBDA and Adjusted OIBDA margin, as some of our primary measurement metrics. In addition, we monitor our monthly advertising performance measurements, including advertising inventory utilization, advertising pricing (CPM), local advertising rate per theater per week, advertising revenue per attendee, as well as significant operating expenses and related trends. We also monitor free cash flow, cash balances, the fixed charge coverage ratio and revolving credit facility availability to ensure financial debt covenant compliance and that there is adequate cash availability to fund our working capital needs, debt obligations and any future dividends declared by our Board of Directors.

Recent Developments

Spotlight—On November 14, 2025, NCM LLC entered into a Membership Interest Purchase Agreement (“MIPA”) with Spotlight Cinema Networks (“Spotlight”), a niche cinema advertising company, whereby the Company acquired 100.0% of Spotlight. The acquisition of Spotlight adds high-scale luxury screens and exhibitors that offer unique and engaging customer experiences to the Company’s platform, unlocking new advertising and preshow entertainment inventory. Spotlight’s exhibitor partners, including Cinépolis Luxury Cinema, Landmark Theatres, Flix Brewhouse and LOOK Dine-In Cinemas, complement NCM’s national theater network and extend NCM’s reach among culturally engaged premium audiences. The addition of Spotlight’s footprint increases NCM’s national market share by more than 6.0% and expands its

theater presence by approximately 30.0% in the critical New York and Los Angeles markets. Spotlight was consolidated within the Company's financial statements for the period of November 15, 2025 through January 1, 2026. Refer to Note 5—*Business Combinations* for more information regarding the acquisition and consolidation of Spotlight.

AMC—On April 17, 2025, the Company and AMC, entered into the Second Amended and Restated Exhibitor Services Agreement (the “2025 AMC Agreement”) and a separate termination agreement (the “AMC Termination Agreement”) by and among NCM LLC, NCM, Inc. and AMC. The 2025 AMC Agreement extends the term of the ESA by five years, more closely aligns the program distributed by NCM LLC in AMC theaters to the predominant pre-feature program show structure in the rest of NCM LLC's advertising network and adjusts the consideration paid by NCM LLC. The AMC Termination Agreement waives AMC's rights under certain agreements entered into at the time of the IPO. The agreements were accounted for in accordance with the lease modification guidance within ASC 842—Leases as the amended ESA contains a short-term operating lease of AMC's screens. The agreements were considered combined as they were entered into contemporaneously by the same parties. As a result of the agreements, in the year ended January 1, 2026, NCM LLC released \$24.8 million of the 'Payable under the TRA' and reversed the receivable of \$10.6 million from AMC, related to unpaid integration payments, and the receivable under the Common Unit Adjustment Agreement within 'Prepaid expenses and other assets' on the Company's audited Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet. NCM will no longer have an obligation to make TRA payments to AMC, provide common units as a part of the Common Unit Adjustment Agreement or distribute NCM LLC's available cash to AMC and the Company received the benefits of the revised ESA, including enhancements related to the pre-feature show structure and the exclusive right to advertise in AMC's theaters. The net impact of these reversals was recorded to the 'Intangible Assets, net of amortization' as AMC's forfeiture of this net payable was considered akin to a lease incentive. The reduction in the intangible asset for the ESAs and the extension of the term of the ESA will result in reduced amortization expense, as it is considered akin to lease expense, for the remainder of the contract term. Refer to Note 6—*Intangible Assets*, Note 7—*Income Taxes*, and Note 13—*Commitments and Contingencies* and the Company's Form 8-K filed with the SEC on April 23, 2025 for additional detail surrounding these agreements.

Debt Agreement—On January 24, 2025, NCM LLC, entered into a Loan and Security Agreement with U.S. Bank National Association, as lender. The agreement provides for a \$45.0 million senior secured revolving credit facility (the “2025 Credit Facility”) that matures on January 24, 2028. In connection with entering into the 2025 Credit Facility, NCM LLC repaid in full the \$10.0 million balance outstanding as of December 26, 2024 and terminated all commitments under its 2023 Revolving Credit Facility, and paid a prepayment fee equal to 1% of the total commitment. The 2025 Credit Facility is expected to result in a meaningful reduction of the Company's overall interest expense, extends the maturity date to 2028 and is a cash flow-based revolving loan compared to the asset-based revolving loan of the 2023 Revolving Credit Facility. As of January 1, 2026, NCM LLC has an outstanding balance of \$12.0 million under the 2025 Credit Facility. Borrowings under the 2025 Credit Facility may be used for, among other things, working capital and other general corporate purposes of the Company and bear interest at a floating rate equal to term SOFR (subject to a floor of zero) plus an applicable margin of 2.00%, which is subject to increase by an additional 2.00% upon the occurrence of an event of default.

Share Repurchase Program—On March 18, 2024, the Board of Directors of the Company approved a stock repurchase program under which the Company is authorized to use assets of the Company to repurchase up to \$100.0 million of shares of the Company's Common Stock, exclusive of any fees, commissions or other expenses related to such repurchases, from time to time over a period of three years. Shares may be repurchased under the program through open market purchases, block trades, or accelerated or other structured share repurchase programs. During the year ended January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, 4.1 million and 2.5 million shares were repurchased on the open market, respectively. In accordance with ASC 505—*Equity*, the Company elected to retire the shares. Upon the retirement of these shares, the excess over par value paid, inclusive of direct costs, of \$22.3 million and \$13.4 million was recorded as a reduction to retained earnings for the year ended January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, respectively.

Reverse Stock Split—On August 3, 2023, the Company effected a one-for-ten (1:10) reverse stock split of its common stock, par value \$0.01 per share. The reverse stock split reduced the number of outstanding shares of the Company's common stock from 174,112,385 shares as of August 3, 2023, to 17,411,323 shares outstanding post-split. After the cancellation of Regal's shares on August 7, 2023, there were 13,343,065 shares outstanding. The primary purpose of the reverse stock split was to comply with the Company's obligations under the NCMI 9019 Settlement, as well as, to increase the per share market price of the Company's common stock in an effort to maintain compliance with applicable Nasdaq continued listing standards.

Bankruptcy Filing, Deconsolidation and Reconsolidation of NCM LLC—On April 11, 2023, NCM LLC filed a voluntary petition for reorganization with a prearranged Chapter 11 plan under Chapter 11 of Title 11 of the United States Code in the Bankruptcy Code in the Bankruptcy Court. During the Chapter 11 Case, the Company was deemed to no longer control NCM LLC for accounting purposes and NCM LLC was deconsolidated from the Company’s financial statements prospectively as of April 11, 2023. We continued to operate as the manager of the debtor-in-possession pursuant to the authority granted under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code throughout the Chapter 11 Case.

On June 27, 2023, the Bankruptcy Court entered the Confirmation Order approving the Disclosure Statement on a final basis and confirming the Company’s Plan. Following confirmation of the Plan on August 7, 2023, all the conditions to effectiveness of the Plan were satisfied or waived, the Restructuring Transactions were substantially consummated and NCM LLC emerged from bankruptcy. Among other things, on the Effective Date, in accordance with the Plan, all common units under the NCM LLC Operating Agreement were canceled and extinguished, NCM, Inc. received NCM LLC common units and transferred the NCM Capital Contribution of approximately \$15.5 million to NCM LLC, NCM LLC assumed certain unexpired Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases, including AMC’s and Cinemark’s ESAs, NCM LLC transferred \$8.8 million of cash to a professional fees escrow account and \$15.0 million to an unsecured creditor settlements escrow account for the General Unsecured Claim Pool. NCM LLC commenced distributions to creditors, including the issuance of shares of NCM, Inc. common stock to holders of Secured Debt Claims and NCM LLC entered into an Exit Facility to support operations upon emergence. As a result of the Plan, all historical debt of NCM LLC was discharged and NCM LLC recorded a gain on bankruptcy of \$916.4 million for the year ended December 28, 2023.

Additionally, upon emergence from bankruptcy, NCM, Inc., regained control and retained 100.0% ownership of NCM LLC, after taking into account elections by the holders of Secured Debt Claims to receive NCM, Inc. common stock in lieu of NCM LLC common units and was therefore reconsolidated into the Company’s financial statements prospectively as of August 7, 2023 akin to an acquisition under *ASC 805 – Business Combinations*. In accordance with *ASC 805 – Business Combinations*, the assets and liabilities of NCM LLC were adjusted to their estimated fair value as of the Effective Date.

As of January 1, 2026, the Company has not completed all agreed upon payments to the General Unsecured Claim Pool, due to the existence of one pre-petition litigation matter that is ongoing in the Bankruptcy Court, which could impact the payments to other unsecured creditors from the General Unsecured Claims Pool. As a result, the Company held a total of \$3.0 million within the escrow accounts and accruals, presented within ‘Restricted cash’ and ‘Accounts Payable’ on the audited Consolidated Balance Sheets as of January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, respectively.

Regal Advertising Agreement—On September 7, 2022, Cineworld Group plc, the parent company of Regal, and certain of its subsidiaries, including Regal, Regal Cinemas, Inc., formerly a party to an ESA with NCM LLC, and Regal CineMedia Holdings, LLC, formerly a party to other agreements with NCM LLC and NCM, Inc., filed petitions for reorganization under Chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code in the Southern District of Texas. On October 21, 2022, Regal filed a motion to reject the ESA without specifying an effective date for the rejection and indicated that Regal planned on negotiating with NCM LLC. NCM LLC also filed an adversary proceeding against Regal seeking declaratory relief and an injunction prohibiting Regal from breaching certain exclusivity, non-compete, non-negotiate and confidentiality provisions in the ESA by entering into a new agreement with a third-party or bringing any of the services performed by NCM LLC in-house. On February 1, 2023, Cineworld filed a motion for summary judgment on NCM LLC’s adversary proceeding. On May 5, 2023, NCM LLC and Regal agreed to stay the ongoing litigation while the parties worked towards the terms of a new arrangement for NCM LLC to provide advertising services to Regal. In lieu of litigating Regal’s potential rejection of the ESA and NCM LLC’s adversary proceeding against Regal, the parties negotiated a Regal Advertising Agreement and Regal Termination Agreement. The Regal Advertising Agreement was effective on July 14, 2023 and provides that NCM LLC acquired the exclusive right to provide on-screen advertisements at Regal’s theaters for a term of ten years in exchange for payments based on the attendance at Regal’s theaters and the revenue generated by NCM LLC through advertising displayed in Regal’s theaters.

Pursuant to the Regal Advertising Agreement, NCM LLC has the right to display advertising in Regal’s theaters with a program of inventory that provides for (i) up to five minutes in length for exhibition on-screen immediately prior to showtime of a feature film or digital programming event, (ii) up to ten minutes immediately after the showtime of a feature film, extending the time available to NCM LLC by five minutes, and (iii) the Platinum Spot that may be exhibited on-screen prior to the last two trailers, which may be either thirty or sixty seconds in length, and subject to Regal’s approval, NCM LLC may display two thirty-second spots in the Platinum Spot and a Gold Spot, a thirty second spot displayed immediately prior to the fourth trailer preceding a feature film or digital programming event.

Pursuant to the Regal Termination Agreement, effective on July 14, 2023, Regal rejected and terminated the ESA. Additionally Regal and Regal’s affiliates’ waived all rights and interests as to the Tax Receivable Agreement, the Common Unit Adjustment Agreement, the Software License Agreement, the Director Designation Agreement, the Registration Rights Agreement and all the other joint venture agreements described in NCM LLC’s Company Operating Agreement and Regal and Regal’s affiliates waived and released claims against other parties thereto. In connection with the Regal Advertising

Agreement, NCM LLC and Regal also agreed to dismiss with prejudice the ongoing litigation between the parties related to NCM LLC's request to enforce certain provisions of the ESA, including the exclusivity provision. Following the effective date of the Regal Termination Agreement of July 14, 2023, Regal is no longer an ESA Party or related party and is included within the network affiliate metrics.

Summary Operating Data

The results of operations data for the years ended January 1, 2026, December 26, 2024 and December 27, 2023 and the balance sheet data as of January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024 are derived from the audited Consolidated Financial Statements of NCM, Inc. included elsewhere in this document (dollars in millions, except share and margin data):

(\$ in millions)	Years Ended		% Change
	Jan. 1, 2026	Dec. 26, 2024	2024 to 2025
Revenue.....	\$ 243.2	\$ 240.8	1.0%
Operating expenses:			
Network operating costs.....	13.0	13.7	(5.1)%
Theater exhibition fees.....	118.5	111.9	5.9%
Selling and marketing costs.....	41.6	41.6	0.0%
Administrative and other costs.....	46.1	50.7	(9.1)%
Depreciation expense.....	4.6	4.6	0.0%
Amortization expense.....	33.3	37.8	(11.9)%
Total operating expenses.....	257.1	260.3	(1.2)%
Operating loss.....	(13.9)	(19.5)	(28.7)%
Non-operating expense.....	(3.3)	2.6	(226.9)%
Income tax expense.....	—	0.2	(100.0)%
Net loss attributable to noncontrolling interests.....	—	—	0.0%
Net loss attributable to NCM, Inc.	\$ (10.6)	\$ (22.3)	(52.5)%
Net loss per NCM, Inc. basic share.....	\$ (0.11)	\$ (0.23)	(52.2)%
Net loss per NCM, Inc. diluted share.....	\$ (0.11)	\$ (0.23)	(52.2)%

Basis of Presentation

Prior to the completion of our IPO, NCM LLC was wholly-owned by its ESA Parties. In connection with the offering, NCM, Inc. purchased newly issued common membership units from NCM LLC and common membership units from NCM LLC's ESA Parties and became a member of and the sole manager of NCM LLC. We entered into several agreements to effect the reorganization and the financing transaction and certain amendments were made to the existing ESAs to govern the relationships among NCM LLC and NCM LLC's ESA Parties after the completion of these transactions.

The results of operations data discussed herein were derived from the audited Consolidated Financial Statements and accounting records of NCM, Inc. and should be read in conjunction with the notes thereto.

We have a 52-week or 53-week fiscal year ending on the first Thursday after December 25. Fiscal year 2025 contained 53 weeks and fiscal year 2024 contained 52 weeks. Our 2026 fiscal year will contain 52 weeks. Throughout this document, we refer to our fiscal years as set forth below:

Fiscal Year Ended	Reference in this Document
January 1, 2026.....	2025
December 26, 2024.....	2024

Results of Operations

Fiscal Years 2025 and 2024

Revenue. Total revenue increased \$2.4 million, or 1.0%, from \$240.8 million for 2024 to \$243.2 million for 2025. The following is a summary of revenue by category (in millions):

	Fiscal Year		\$ Change	% Change
	2025	2024	2024 to 2025	2024 to 2025
National advertising revenue	\$ 194.5	\$ 188.0	\$ 6.5	3.5%
Local and regional advertising revenue.....	34.6	39.1	(4.5)	(11.5)%
ESA Party advertising revenue from beverage concessionaire agreements.....	14.1	13.7	0.4	2.9%
Total revenue	\$ 243.2	\$ 240.8	\$ 2.4	1.0%

The following table shows data on theater attendance and revenue per attendee for the year ended January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024:

	Fiscal Year		% Change
	2025	2024	2024 to 2025
National advertising revenue per attendee	\$ 0.482	\$ 0.481	0.1%
Local and regional advertising revenue per attendee.....	\$ 0.086	\$ 0.100	(14.4)%
Total advertising revenue (excluding ESA Party beverage revenue) per attendee	\$ 0.567	\$ 0.581	(2.4)%
Total revenue per attendee	\$ 0.602	\$ 0.616	(2.3)%
Total theater attendance (in millions) (1).....	403.8	390.7	3.4%

(1) Represents the total attendance within the NCM Network, excluding screens and attendance associated with certain AMC Carmike theaters that were part of another cinema advertising network during the periods presented, as well as, estimated attendance for the Spotlight Cinema Network for the period included within the Company's consolidated results (November 14, 2025 to January 1, 2026).

National advertising revenue. National advertising revenue increased by \$6.5 million, or 3.5%, from \$188.0 million in 2024 to \$194.5 million in 2025. The increase in national advertising revenue was due to an increase in impressions at our existing exhibitors, as well as through the Spotlight acquisition. The majority of the increase was driven by a 22.1% increase in national advertising utilization, as well as a 2.0% increase in NCM Network attendance due in part to the extra week in our fiscal year 2025, as compared to 2024. In order to increase utilization and better monetize attendance, the Company strategically decreased national advertising CPMs by 18.1% in 2025, as compared to 2024.

Local and regional advertising revenue. Local and regional advertising revenue decreased by \$4.5 million, or 11.5%, from \$39.1 million in 2024 to \$34.6 million in 2025. The decrease in local and regional advertising revenue was primarily due to a decrease in contract activity and size within the pharmaceutical, travel, government and automotive categories in 2025, as compared to 2024. These decreases were partially offset by an increase in contract activity and size within the gaming, technology, beverages, retail and apparel and healthcare categories in 2025, as compared to 2024.

ESA Party beverage revenue. ESA Party beverage revenue increased \$0.4 million, or 2.9%, from \$13.7 million in 2024 to \$14.1 million in 2025. The increase in ESA Party beverage revenue was primarily due to a 3.7% increase in ESA Party attendance in 2025, as compared to 2024.

Operating expenses. Total operating expenses decreased \$3.2 million, or 1.2%, from \$260.3 million for 2024 to \$257.1 million for 2025. The following table shows the changes in operating expense for 2025 and 2024 (in millions):

	Fiscal Year		\$ Change	% Change
	2025	2024	2024 to 2025	2024 to 2025
Network operating costs	\$ 13.0	\$ 13.7	\$ (0.7)	(5.1)%
Theater exhibition fees.....	118.5	111.9	6.6	5.9%
Selling and marketing costs.....	41.6	41.6	0.0	0.0%
Administrative and other costs	46.1	50.7	(4.6)	(9.1)%
Depreciation expense.....	4.6	4.6	—	0.0%
Amortization expense	33.3	37.8	(4.5)	(11.9)%
Total operating expenses	\$ 257.1	\$ 260.3	\$ (3.2)	(1.2)%

Network operating costs. Network operating costs decreased \$0.7 million, or 5.1%, from \$13.7 million in 2024 to \$13.0 million in 2025. The decrease in network operating costs was primarily due to a \$0.5 million decrease in satellite related expenses due to the completion of the satellite transition in 2024, and a \$0.3 million decrease in expenses related to our digital product offerings in 2025, as compared to 2024. These decreases were partially offset by a \$0.1 million increase in personnel related costs in 2025, as compared to 2024.

Theater exhibition fees. Theater exhibition fees increased \$6.6 million, or 5.9%, from \$111.9 million in 2024 to \$118.5 million in 2025. The increase in theater exhibition fees was primarily due to a \$5.1 million increase in existing exhibitor related fees driven by the 2.0% increase in network attendance due to the extra week in our fiscal year 2025, as compared to 2024, contractual rate increases within our exhibitor agreements in 2025, as compared to 2024, and the rate increases within the 2025 AMC Agreement entered into in April of 2025. The theater exhibition fees also increased \$1.5 million due to the consolidation of Spotlight for the period of November 14, 2025 through January 1, 2026.

Selling and marketing costs. Selling and marketing costs remained at \$41.6 million in 2025, consistent with \$41.6 million in 2024. This was primarily due to a \$1.6 million increase in selling related expenses partly driven by the timing of our periodic company-wide sales meeting, a \$1.0 million increase in variable costs associated with certain sales partnerships and platforms and a \$0.4 million increase in marketing research expenses due to an increase in research studies sold during 2025, as compared to 2024. These increases were offset by a \$3.0 million decrease in personnel-related expenses primarily due to a decrease in performance-based compensation expense, a decrease in severance expenses due to the workforce reorganization in the first quarter of 2024 and a decrease in stock-based compensation due to the grant of the one time management equity incentive plan in the first quarter of 2024, compared to normalized grant activity in 2025.

Administrative and other costs. Administrative and other costs decreased \$4.6 million, or 9.1%, from \$50.7 million in 2024 to \$46.1 million in 2025. The decrease is primarily due to a \$4.8 million decrease in personnel related costs primarily due to retention related expenses in 2024 related to the Chapter 11 Case, as well as a decrease in the Company's performance as compared to compensation targets in 2025 and a \$3.8 million decrease in legal and professional fees related to the Chapter 11 Case and Cineworld Proceeding in 2025, as compared to 2024. These decreases were partially offset by a \$1.4 million increase in cloud computing expenses due to improvements made to our programmatic offerings, a \$1.3 million increase in system optimization costs, a \$0.4 million increase in investor and public relation costs, primarily related to the Company's investor day in March of 2025, a \$0.3 million increase in legal and professional fees related to the Spotlight acquisition, a \$0.3 million increase in board of director fees and a \$0.2 million increase in facility related expenses in 2025, as compared to 2024.

Depreciation expense. Depreciation expense remained at \$4.6 million in 2025, consistent with \$4.6 million in 2024.

Amortization expense. Amortization expense decreased \$4.5 million, or 11.6%, from \$37.8 million in 2024 to \$33.3 million in 2025. The decrease in amortization expense was primarily due to the reduction and extension of the useful life of the intangible asset related to the ESA Parties following the 2025 AMC Agreement in the second quarter of 2025 as further discussed in Note 6—*Intangible Assets* and Note 7—*Income Taxes*.

Non-operating (income) expense. Total non-operating expense decreased \$5.9 million, or 226.9%, from non-operating expense of \$2.6 million in 2024 to non-operating income of \$3.3 million in 2025. The following table shows the changes in non-operating expense for 2025 and 2024 (in millions):

	Fiscal Year		\$ Change
	2025	2024	2024 to 2025
Interest on borrowings.....	\$ 0.6	\$ 1.7	\$ (1.1)
Interest income.....	(1.4)	(2.4)	1.0
(Gain) loss on re-measurement of the payable under the tax receivable agreement	(3.7)	4.6	(8.3)
Loss on debt extinguishment.....	1.8	—	1.8
Other non-operating income.....	(0.6)	(1.3)	0.7
Total non-operating (income) expense.....	\$ (3.3)	\$ 2.6	\$ (5.9)

The decrease in non-operating expense was primarily due to an \$8.3 million decrease in loss on re-measurement of the payable under the tax receivable agreement largely due to the addition of two years of estimates in management's forecast for future years in 2024 following increased insight into the respective movie slates and market demand as compared to the addition of one new forecasted year in 2025 to replace the completed prior year within the calculation and the subsequent decrease in the forecast during 2025, as compared to the original forecast. The decrease in non-operating expense is also due to a \$1.1 million decrease in interest expense due to the termination of the Company's outstanding debt in the first quarter of 2025. These decreases were partially offset by a \$1.8 million increase in loss on debt extinguishment in the first quarter of 2025 following the Company's termination of its Revolving Credit Facility 2023, a \$1.0 million decrease in interest income and a \$0.7 million decrease in non-operating income related to the Company's equity method investment in ACJV, LLC in 2025, compared to 2024.

Non-GAAP Financial Measures

Adjusted OIBDA and Adjusted OIBDA margin are not financial measures calculated in accordance with GAAP in the United States.

Adjusted OIBDA represents operating income before depreciation and amortization expense adjusted to also exclude non-cash share-based payment costs, impairment of long-lived assets, workforce reorganization costs, termination of the Regal ESA, system optimization costs, satellite transitions costs, Spotlight acquisition and transition related costs and advisor fees related to involvement in the Cineworld Proceeding and Chapter 11 Case. Our management uses this non-GAAP financial measure to evaluate operating performance, to forecast future results and as a basis for compensation. The Company believes this is an important supplemental measure of operating performance because it eliminates items that have less bearing on its operating performance and highlights trends in its core business that may not otherwise be apparent when relying solely on GAAP financial measures. The Company believes the presentation of this measure is relevant and useful for investors because it enables them to view performance in a manner similar to the method used by the Company's management, helps improve their ability to understand the Company's operating performance and makes it easier to compare the Company's results with other companies that may have different depreciation and amortization policies, non-cash share-based payment costs, impairment of long-lived assets, workforce reorganization costs, termination of the Regal ESA, system optimization costs, satellite transition costs, acquisition related costs and advisor fees related to involvement in the Cineworld Proceeding and Chapter 11 Case, interest rates, debt levels or income tax rates.

Adjusted OIBDA margin is calculated by dividing Adjusted OIBDA by total revenue. Our management uses this non-GAAP financial measure to evaluate operating performance, to forecast future results and as a basis for compensation. The Company believes this is an important supplemental measure of operating performance because it eliminates items that have less bearing on its operating performance and highlight trends in its core business that may not otherwise be apparent when relying solely on GAAP financial measures. The Company believes the presentation of this measure is relevant and useful for investors because it enables them to view performance in a manner similar to the method used by the Company's management, helps improve their ability to understand the Company's operating performance and makes it easier to compare the Company's results with other companies that may have different depreciation and amortization policies, non-cash share-based payment costs, impairment of long-lived assets, workforce reorganization costs, termination of the Regal ESA, system optimization costs, satellite transitions costs, acquisition related costs, advisor fees related to involvement in the Cineworld Proceeding and Chapter 11 Case, interest rates, debt levels or income tax rates.

A limitation of both of these measures, however, is that they exclude depreciation and amortization, which represent a proxy for the periodic costs of certain capitalized tangible and intangible assets used in generating revenues in NCM LLC's business. In addition, Adjusted OIBDA and Adjusted OIBDA margin have the limitation of not reflecting the effect of the non-cash share-based payment costs, impairment of long-lived assets, workforce reorganization costs, termination of the Regal ESA, system optimization costs, satellite transitions costs, acquisition related costs and advisor fees related to

involvement in the Cineworld Proceeding and Chapter 11 Case. Adjusted OIBDA should not be regarded as an alternative to operating income, net income or as indicators of operating performance, nor should it be considered in isolation of, or as substitutes for financial measures prepared in accordance with GAAP. The Company believes that operating income is the most directly comparable GAAP financial measure to Adjusted OIBDA, and operating margin is the most directly comparable GAAP financial measure to Adjusted OIBDA margin. Because not all companies use identical calculations, these non-GAAP presentations may not be comparable to other similarly titled measures of other companies, or calculations in NCM LLC's 2025 Credit Facility.

The following table reconciles operating income to Adjusted OIBDA for the periods presented (dollars in millions):

	Years Ended		
	January 1, 2026	December 26, 2024	December 28, 2023
Operating loss.....	\$ (13.9)	\$ (19.5)	\$ (180.9)
Depreciation expense.....	4.6	4.6	4.6
Amortization expense.....	33.3	37.8	29.8
Share-based compensation costs (1).....	9.3	12.2	5.5
Impairment of long-lived assets (2).....	—	—	8.9
Workforce reorganization costs (3).....	2.0	2.9	—
Loss on termination of Regal ESA, net (4).....	—	—	125.6
System optimization costs (5).....	1.9	0.8	—
Satellite transition costs (6).....	—	0.4	—
Spotlight acquisition and integration costs (7).....	0.4	—	—
Advisor fees related to the Chapter 11 Case (8).....	1.5	6.5	59.2
Adjusted OIBDA.....	<u>\$ 39.1</u>	<u>\$ 45.7</u>	<u>\$ 52.7</u>
Total revenue.....	\$ 243.2	\$ 240.8	\$ 259.8
Operating margin.....	(5.7%)	(8.1%)	(69.6%)
Adjusted OIBDA margin.....	16.1%	19.0%	20.3%

- (1) Share-based compensation costs are included in 'network operating costs', 'selling and marketing costs' and 'administrative and other costs' in the Company's audited Consolidated Financial Statements.
- (2) The impairment of long-lived assets primarily relates to the write down of certain intangible assets related to a purchased affiliate and internally developed software and leasehold improvements no longer in use.
- (3) Workforce reorganization costs represent eliminated positions and redundancy costs associated with changes to the Company's workforce, as well as related office relocations.
- (4) The net impact of Regal's termination of the ESA resulting from the disposal of the intangible asset partially offset by the surrender of Regal's ownership in the Company and the forgiveness of the prepetition claims.
- (5) System optimization costs represent costs incurred related to a one-time assessment of the technology surrounding the Company's programmatic offerings beginning in the third quarter of 2024 and an assessment of operating efficiencies beginning in the third quarter of 2025.
- (6) One-time costs of transitioning satellite providers during 2024.
- (7) Advisor and legal fees incurred in connection with the acquisition of Spotlight in the fourth quarter of 2025, as well as, temporary transition costs incurred during the integration of Spotlight into the Company's processes.
- (8) Advisor and legal fees and expenses incurred in connection with the Company's involvement in the Cineworld Proceeding and Chapter 11 Case and related appeals, as well as insurance and retention related expenses.

Known Trends and Uncertainties

Beverage Revenue—Under the ESAs, up to 90 seconds of The *Noovie*® Show program can be sold to the ESA Parties to satisfy their on-screen advertising commitments under their beverage concessionaire agreements. In 2025, Cinemark purchased 60 seconds of on-screen advertising time and AMC purchased 30 seconds to satisfy their obligations under their beverage concessionaire agreements in effect in 2025. In 2026, such obligations are expected to decrease resulting in lower beverage revenue in 2026, as compared to 2025. The price for the time sold to Cinemark's beverage supplier and AMC's beverage supplier will increase at a fixed rate of 2.0% each year.

Theater Exhibition Fees—In consideration for the Company's access to the ESA Parties' and network affiliate theaters for on-screen and LEN advertising and lobby promotions, the ESA Parties and network affiliates receive access fees

based either upon number of attendees, a revenue share or a combination, including a minimum revenue guarantee per attendee, or a fee per digital cinema screen. Many of these agreements contain annual increases to the respective fee structures or guaranteed minimums, either per patron, per theater and/or per digital screen. The payments under the ESA Parties' agreements and network affiliate agreements are recorded within 'Theater exhibition fees' in the audited Consolidated Statement of Operations.

Financial Condition and Liquidity

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Our cash balances can fluctuate due to the seasonality of our business and related timing of collections of accounts receivable balances and operating expenditure payments, as well as interest or principal payments on our 2025 Credit Facility, income tax payments, TRA payments, available cash payments (as defined in the NCM LLC Operating Agreement) to Cinemark in the event Cinemark holds NCM LLC membership units and any amount of dividends to NCM, Inc.'s common stockholders. We have sufficient sources of liquidity to meet our material cash commitments for the next 12 months and the foreseeable future.

On January 24, 2025, NCM LLC entered into a Loan and Security Agreement with U.S. Bank National Association, as lender. The agreement provides for a \$45.0 million senior secured revolving credit facility, the 2025 Credit Facility, that matures on January 24, 2028. In connection with entering into the 2025 Credit Facility, NCM LLC repaid in full the \$10.0 million balance outstanding as of December 26, 2024 and terminated all commitments under its 2023 Revolving Credit Facility, and in connection with this termination, paid a prepayment fee equal to 1% of the total commitment. As of January 1, 2026, NCM LLC has an outstanding balance of \$12.0 million under the 2025 Credit Facility. Borrowings under the 2025 Credit Facility may be used for, among other things, working capital and other general corporate purposes of the Company and bear interest at a floating rate equal to term SOFR (subject to a floor of zero) plus an applicable margin of 2.00%, which is subject to increase by an additional 2.00% upon the occurrence of an event of default.

On August 7, 2023, NCM LLC entered into the Revolving Credit Facility 2023 with CIT Northbridge Credit LLC as agent. The Revolving Credit Facility 2023 was an asset backed line facility where the capacity depended upon NCM LLC's trade accounts receivable balance, as adjusted for aged balances and other considerations. The maximum availability NCM LLC had access to under the revolver was \$55.0 million. The proceeds of the Revolving Credit Facility 2023 could have been used for, inter alia, working capital and capital expenditures. The Revolving Credit Facility 2023 would have matured on August 7, 2026. The interest rate under the Revolving Credit Facility 2023 was a base rate or SOFR benchmark plus (i) 3.75% if less than 50% of revolving commitments were utilized or (ii) 4.50% if 50% or more of revolving commitments were utilized (utilizing the average revolver usage for the prior calendar month as a benchmark for this determination). The Revolving Credit Facility 2023 also contained a financial maintenance covenant requiring that the fixed charge coverage ratio ending on the last day of each fiscal month was at least 1.1 to 1.0 during a "Trigger Period." A Trigger Period begins upon (i) an event of default or (ii) if availability is less than the greater of (a) \$5.0 million and (b) 10% of aggregate revolving commitments. A Trigger Period ends only if (i) no event of default existed for the preceding 30 consecutive days and (ii) availability is greater than both (a) \$5.0 million and (b) 10% of aggregate revolving commitments. Upon the effectiveness of the Revolving Credit Facility 2023, NCM LLC immediately drew \$10.0 million from the facility, which represented the only amount outstanding under the Revolving Credit Facility 2023, as of December 26, 2024. This balance was subsequently repaid on January 24, 2025 upon the termination of the Revolving Credit Facility 2023, effective on January 24, 2025.

A summary of our financial liquidity is as follows (in millions):

	Years Ended		\$ Change
	January 1, 2026	December 26, 2024	2024 to 2025
Cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities (1)	\$ 34.6	75.2	\$ (40.6)
2025 Credit Facility availability (2).....	32.4	—	\$ 32.4
Revolving Credit Facility 2023 availability (3)	—	44.4	\$ (44.4)
Total liquidity.....	<u>\$ 67.0</u>	<u>\$ 119.6</u>	<u>\$ (52.6)</u>

(1) Included in cash and cash equivalents as of January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, there was \$23.8 million and \$63.5 million, respectively, of cash held by NCM LLC which is not available to satisfy dividends declared by NCM, Inc., income tax, TRA payments and other NCM, Inc. obligations.

(2) The 2025 Credit Facility portion of NCM LLC's total borrowings that is available, subject to certain conditions, for general corporate purposes of NCM LLC in the ordinary course of business and for other transactions permitted under the 2025 Credit Facility, and a portion is available for letters of credit. NCM LLC's total capacity under the 2025 Credit Facility is \$45.0 million as of January 1, 2026. As of January 1, 2026, the amount available under the 2025 Credit Facility in the table above is net of letters of credit of \$0.6 million and the amount outstanding under the 2025 Credit Facility of \$12.0 million.

- (3) The Revolving Credit Facility 2023 portion of NCM LLC's total borrowings that was available, subject to certain conditions, for general corporate purposes of NCM LLC in the ordinary course of business and for other transactions permitted under the senior secured credit facility, and a portion was available for letters of credit. NCM LLC's total capacity under the Revolving Credit Facility 2023, which was subject to fluctuations in the underlying assets, was \$55.0 million prior to its extinguishment. As of December 26, 2024, the amount available under the Revolving Credit Facility 2023 in the table above is net of letters of credit of \$0.6 million and the amount outstanding under the Revolving Credit Facility 2023 of \$10.0 million.

We have generated and used cash as follows (in millions):

	Years Ended	
	2025	2024
Operating cash flow.....	\$ 8.4	\$ 60.3
Investing cash flow.....	\$ (15.4)	\$ (5.7)
Financing cash flow.....	\$ (33.5)	\$ (14.1)

Cash Flows – Fiscal Years 2025 and 2024

Operating Activities. The \$51.9 million decrease in cash provided by operating activities for 2025, as compared to 2024, was due to 1) a \$27.8 million increase in the change in deferred revenue, 2) a \$19.5 million decrease in account receivable collections, 3) a \$4.4 million decrease in net loss adjusted for non-cash items and 4) a \$3.2 million increase in payments of accounts payable and accrued expenses in 2025, as compared to 2024. These decreases in cash provided by operating activities were partially offset by a \$5.4 million decrease in prepaid expenses in 2025, as compared to 2024.

Investing Activities. The \$9.7 million increase in cash used in investing activities for 2025, as compared to 2024, was primarily due to the \$8.5 million increase in purchases of strategic investments and the acquisition of the Spotlight Cinema Network.

Financing Activities. The \$19.4 million increase in cash used in financing activities for 2025, as compared to 2024, was primarily due to a \$11.1 million increase in the payment of dividends and an \$8.9 million increase in payments made to repurchase shares of NCM, Inc.'s common stock in 2025, as compared to 2024.

Sources of Capital and Capital Requirements

NCM, Inc.'s primary source of liquidity and capital resources is the quarterly available cash distributions from NCM LLC as well as its existing cash and cash equivalents balances, which as of January 1, 2026 were \$37.6 million (including \$23.8 million of cash and restricted cash held by NCM LLC). NCM LLC's primary sources of liquidity and capital resources are (i) its cash provided by operating activities, (ii) cash on hand and (iii) availability under the 2025 Credit Facility. The \$23.8 million of cash at NCM LLC will be used to fund operations. Cash at NCM, Inc. is used to fund income taxes, payments associated with the TRA, stock repurchases and for future payment of dividends to NCM, Inc. stockholders if and when declared by the Board of Directors.

NCM LLC is required, pursuant to the terms of the NCM LLC Operating Agreement, to distribute its available cash, as defined in the NCM LLC Operating Agreement, quarterly to its members (only NCM, Inc. as of January 1, 2026). The members are only able to receive available cash when they hold units. The available cash distribution to the members of NCM LLC for the year ended January 1, 2026 was calculated as approximately \$20.8 million, due entirely to NCM, Inc., as the only holder of NCM LLC units as of January 1, 2026. The \$20.8 million is comprised of negative available cash generated by NCM LLC to NCM, Inc. for the first and second quarter of 2025 of \$13.4 million and \$3.7 million, respectively, and positive available cash generated by NCM LLC to NCM, Inc. for the third and fourth quarter of 2025 of \$7.1 million and \$30.8 million, respectively. The cumulative negative available cash balance as of January 1, 2026 is \$238.6 million (including \$182.3 million for NCM, Inc. and \$56.3 million for Cinemark). These amounts can only be offset against positive available cash within the second quarter of future years. NCM, Inc. has the option to defer payment of any available cash distributions payable to NCM, Inc. at its discretion. As of January 1, 2026, NCM LLC owed NCM, Inc. \$52.7 million in deferred available cash distributions.

NCM, Inc. expects to use its cash balances and cash received from future available cash distributions (as allowed for under the 2025 Credit Facility) to fund payments associated with the Tax Receivable Agreement ("TRA"), stock repurchases, strategic initiatives and future dividends if and when declared by the Board of Directors. The Company made an estimated TRA payment in 2025 for the 2024 tax year and did not make a TRA payment in 2024 for the 2023 tax year. The Company also expects to make a TRA payment in 2026 for the 2025 tax year. Distributions from NCM LLC and NCM, Inc. cash balances should be sufficient to fund payments associated with the TRA, income taxes and any stock repurchases or declared dividends for the foreseeable future at the discretion of the Board of Directors. On March 18, 2024, the Board of Directors of the Company approved a stock repurchase program under which the Company is authorized to use assets of the Company to repurchase up to \$100.0 million of shares of the Company's Common Stock, exclusive of any fees, commissions or other

expenses related to such repurchases, from time to time over a period of three years. As of January 1, 2026, the Company has \$64.8 million remaining within the authorized program. At the discretion of the Board of Directors, the Company will consider returning a portion of its free cash flow to stockholders. The declaration, payment, timing and amount of any future stock repurchases or dividends payable will be at the sole discretion of the Board of Directors who will take into account general economic and advertising market business conditions, the Company's financial condition, available cash, current and anticipated cash needs and any other factors that the Board of Directors considers relevant.

Capital Expenditures

Capital expenditures of NCM LLC include digital applications being developed primarily by our programmers and outside consultants, capitalized software development or upgrades for our Digital Content Software, audience targeting and data management systems, cinema advertising management system, equipment required for our content production and post-production facilities, office leasehold improvements, desktop equipment for use by our employees, and in certain cases, the costs necessary to install equipment at or digitize all or a portion of a network affiliate's theaters when they are added to our network. Capital expenditures in 2025 were \$8.3 million (including \$2.9 million associated with network affiliate additions; \$2.7 million associated with upgrades to our existing systems related to the continued upgrades of our cinema advertising management system and related reporting; \$0.9 million associated with leasehold improvements; \$0.7 million associated with digital product development and data; and \$0.5 million associated with certain implementation and prepaid costs associated with Cloud Computing arrangements) compared to \$5.6 million in 2024 (including \$1.9 million associated with upgrades to our existing systems related to the continued upgrades of our cinema advertising management system; \$1.7 million associated with leasehold improvements; \$1.0 million associated with digital product development; \$0.4 million associated with network affiliate additions and \$0.4 million associated with certain implementation and prepaid costs associated with Cloud Computing arrangements). The capital expenditures have typically been satisfied through cash flow from operations. All capital expenditures related to the DCN within the ESA Parties' theaters have been made by the ESA Parties under the ESAs. We expect they will continue to be made by the ESA Parties in accordance with the ESAs.

We expect to make approximately \$9.0 million to \$10.0 million of capital expenditures in fiscal 2026. We expect approximately \$4.0 million of capital expenditures related to upgrades to our Digital Content distribution and management software and our other internal management systems, including our cinema advertising management system, reporting systems, network equipment and software licensing, \$4.0 million towards network affiliate additions and upgrades to currently contracted network affiliates, \$1.0 million towards digital products and audience measurement tools and \$1.0 million towards leasehold improvements. Our capital expenditures may increase as we add additional network affiliates. We expect that additional expenditures, if any, would be funded in part by additional cash flows associated with those new network affiliates.

Financings

On January 24, 2025, NCM LLC entered into a Loan and Security Agreement with U.S. Bank National Association, as lender. The agreement provides for a \$45.0 million senior secured revolving credit facility, the 2025 Credit Facility, that matures on January 24, 2028. In connection with entering into the 2025 Credit Facility, NCM LLC repaid in full the \$10.0 million balance outstanding as of January 1, 2026 and terminated all commitments under its 2023 Revolving Credit Facility, and in connection with this termination, paid a prepayment fee equal to 1% of the total commitment.

As of January 1, 2026, NCM LLC has an outstanding balance of \$12.0 million under the 2025 Credit Facility. Borrowings under the 2025 Credit Facility may be used for, among other things, working capital and other general corporate purposes of the Company and bear interest at a floating rate equal to term SOFR (subject to a floor of zero) plus an applicable margin of 2.00%, which is subject to increase by an additional 2.00% upon the occurrence of an event of default. A commitment fee of 0.25% is payable quarterly in arrears based on the average daily amount of the undrawn portion of the commitments under the 2025 Credit Facility for the preceding quarter. The 2025 Credit Facility has a \$5.0 million sublimit for the issuance of letters of credit. Fees are payable on outstanding letters of credit at a per annum rate equal to 2.00%, plus certain customary fees payable in connection with the issuance, amendment, renewal and extension of letters of credit and the processing of drawings thereunder.

Certain of NCM LLC's future subsidiaries, the Guarantors, are required to guarantee the repayment of NCM LLC's obligations under the 2025 Credit Facility. The obligations of NCM LLC and any such Guarantors with respect to the 2025 Credit Facility are and will be secured by a pledge of substantially all assets of NCM LLC and each of the Guarantors, including, without limitation, accounts receivables, deposit accounts, intellectual property, investment property, inventory, equipment and equity interests in their respective subsidiaries. The 2025 Credit Facility contains affirmative and negative covenants customary for financings of this type, including limitations on NCM LLC's and its subsidiaries' ability to incur additional debt, grant or permit additional liens, make investments and acquisitions, merge or consolidate with others, dispose of assets, pay dividends and distributions, make equity repurchases, pay subordinated indebtedness and enter into affiliate transactions. In addition, the 2025 Credit Facility contains financial covenants requiring NCM LLC to maintain a maximum

leverage ratio of no greater than 2.25 to 1.00 and a minimum fixed charge coverage ratio of no less than 1.50 to 1.00, each measured on a quarterly basis. The 2025 Credit Facility also includes events of default customary for facilities of this type and upon the occurrence of such events of default, subject to customary cure rights, all outstanding loans under the 2025 Credit Facility may be accelerated and/or the Company's commitments terminated. The 2025 Credit Facility also contains representations, warranties, and events of defaults customary for this type of facility.

As of January 1, 2026, NCM LLC's maximum availability under the \$45.0 million 2025 Credit Facility was \$32.4 million, net of \$12.0 million outstanding and net letters of credit of \$0.6 million. The weighted-average interest rate on the 2025 Credit Facility as of January 1, 2026 was 5.8%. NCM LLC was in compliance at January 1, 2026 with a fixed charge coverage ratio of 13.5 to 1.0 (versus the required ratio of 1.50 to 1.00) and a maximum leverage ratio of 0.4 to 1.0 (versus the required ratio of 2.25 to 1.0).

As of January 1, 2026, the weighted average remaining maturity was 2.1 years. As of January 1, 2026, 100.0% of our borrowings bear interest at variable rates and as such, our net income and earnings per share could fluctuate with market interest rate fluctuations that could increase or decrease the interest paid on our borrowings.

On August 7, 2023, NCM LLC entered into the Revolving Credit Facility 2023 with CIT Northbridge Credit LLC as agent and on January 24, 2025, it was terminated. The Revolving Credit Facility 2023 was an asset backed line facility where the capacity depends upon NCM LLC's trade accounts receivable balance, as adjusted for aged balances and other considerations, and was secured by a lien on substantially all of assets of NCM LLC. The maximum availability NCM LLC had access to under the Revolving Credit Facility 2023 was \$55.0 million. The proceeds of the Revolving Credit Facility 2023 could have been used for, inter alia, working capital and capital expenditures. The Revolving Credit Facility 2023 would have matured on August 7, 2026. The interest rate under the Revolving credit facility 2023 was a base rate or SOFR benchmark plus (i) 3.75% if less than 50% of revolving commitments were utilized or (ii) 4.50% if 50% or more of revolving commitments were utilized (utilizing the average revolver usage for the prior calendar month as a benchmark for this determination). The Revolving Credit Facility 2023 also contained a financial maintenance covenant requiring that the fixed charge coverage ratio ending on the last day of each fiscal month was at least 1.1 to 1.0 during a "Trigger Period." A Trigger Period began upon (i) an event of default or (ii) if availability is less than the greater of (a) \$5.0 million and (b) 10% of aggregate revolving commitments. A Trigger Period ended only if (i) no event of default existed for the preceding thirty (30) consecutive days and (ii) availability was greater than both (a) \$5.0 million and (b) 10% of aggregate revolving commitments. Upon the effectiveness of the Revolving Credit Facility 2023, NCM LLC immediately drew \$10.0 million from the facility, which represented the only amount outstanding under the Revolving Credit Facility 2023, as of December 26, 2024. The Revolving Credit Facility 2023 also contained customary representations, warranties, covenants, events of default, terms and conditions, including limitations on liens, incurrence of debt, mergers and significant asset dispositions. Upon execution of the Revolving Credit Facility 2023, NCM LLC recorded \$2.4 million as debt issuance costs and received \$9.1 million in proceeds.

Critical Accounting Estimates and Policies

The significant accounting policies of the Company are described in Note 1 to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements included elsewhere in this document. Certain accounting policies involve significant judgments, assumptions and estimates by management that have a material impact on the carrying value of certain assets and liabilities, which management considers critical accounting policies. The judgments, assumptions and estimates used by management are based on historical experience, knowledge of the accounts and other factors, which are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances and are evaluated on an ongoing basis. Because of the nature of the judgments and assumptions made by management, actual results could differ from these judgments and estimates, which could have a material impact on the carrying values of assets and liabilities and the results of operations of the Company.

Business Combinations

The Company has accounted for all acquisitions, including the reconsolidation of NCM LLC, using the acquisition method of accounting. The acquisition method requires us to make significant estimates and assumptions, especially at the acquisition date as the purchase price is allocated to the estimated fair values of acquired tangible and intangible assets and the liabilities assumed. NCM LLC uses its best estimates to determine the useful lives of the tangible and definite-lived intangible assets, which impact the periods over which depreciation and amortization of those assets are recognized. These best estimates and assumptions are inherently uncertain as they pertain to forward-looking views of NCM LLC's business, exhibitor behavior and market conditions. In conjunction with the acquisition of Spotlight, NCM LLC recognized goodwill at the amount by which the purchase price paid exceeds the fair value of the net assets acquired. See Note 5—*Business Combinations* for more information on the Company's valuation methods and the results of applying the acquisition method of accounting, including the estimated fair values of the assets acquired and liabilities assumed, and, where relevant, the estimated remaining useful lives.

Our ongoing accounting for goodwill and the tangible and intangible assets acquired requires significant estimates and assumptions as the Company exercises judgment to evaluate these assets for impairment. Our processes and accounting policies for evaluating impairments are further described in Note 1—*Basis of Presentation and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies*.

Deconsolidation of NCM LLC

NCM LLC does not have a readily determinable fair value. Upon the deconsolidation of NCM LLC, the original cost of the investment was valued based upon NCM, Inc.'s ownership of the secured debt of NCM LLC and the estimation of the enterprise value of NCM LLC utilizing a combination of a market approach and income approach. The market approach relied upon a comparison with guideline public companies and entails selecting relevant financial information of the subject company and capitalizing those amounts using valuation multiples that are based on empirical market observation. The income approach relied upon an analysis of NCM LLC's projected economic earnings discounted to present value. Significant assumptions utilized within these analyses include the weighted average cost of capital and NCM LLC's forecasted cash flows. Due to the inherent uncertainty of determining the fair value of securities that do not have a readily available fair value, the determination of the fair value required significant judgment or estimation and changes in the estimates and assumptions used in the valuation models could materially affect the determination.

Valuation of Intangible Assets

In accordance with ASC 360—*Property, Plant and Equipment*, we evaluate intangible assets and other long-lived assets for impairment whenever a triggering event occurs indicating that they may not be recoverable. Recoverability is assessed by comparing the carrying amount of an asset group to future undiscounted net cash flows expected to be generated. If the carrying amount of an asset group is not recoverable, an impairment loss is recognized equal to the difference between the carrying amount and the fair value of the asset group. We group assets for purposes of such review at the lowest level for which identifiable cash flows of the asset group are largely independent of the cash flows of the other groups of assets and liabilities. In order to calculate the future undiscounted net cash flows, we utilize estimates and assumptions based on historical data and consideration of future market conditions while incorporating management's expectations as of the balance sheet date. Unforeseen events, changes in circumstances and market conditions and material differences in estimates of future cash flows could adversely affect the fair value of our assets and could result in impairment charges.

Income Taxes

Nature of Estimates Required. We account for income taxes in accordance with ASC 740 – *Income Taxes*, which requires an asset and liability approach to financial accounting and reporting for income taxes. Accordingly, deferred tax assets and liabilities arise from the differences between the tax basis of an asset or liability and its reported amount in the audited Consolidated Financial Statements. Deferred tax amounts are determined using the tax rates expected to be in effect when the taxes will actually be paid or refunds received, as provided under currently enacted tax law. Valuation allowances are to be established when necessary to reduce deferred tax assets to the amount expected to be realized. The Company generated a three-year cumulative pre-tax book loss during 2021 driven by the impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Company's operations in 2020 and 2021. Given the associated weight assigned to this item as negative evidence within the Company's analysis, the Company determined it is more-likely-than-not that the Company will not be able to realize certain of the Company's deferred tax assets before they expire. Given the additional pre-tax book losses in 2024 and 2025, the Company continues to have a valuation allowance in the amount of \$160.8 million against the deferred tax asset as of January 1, 2026. The Company had a valuation allowance in the amount of \$169.1 million against the deferred tax asset as of December 26, 2024. As we do expect to generate pre-tax book income following the complete recovery from the lingering impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic and Chapter 11 Case, we have recorded an impact from the Net Business Interest Expense Limitation IRC § 163(j) on our payable to ESA Parties under the TRA.

In addition, due to the basis differences resulting from our IPO-related transactions (including the TRA with the ESA Parties) and subsequent adjustments pursuant to the Common Unit Adjustment Agreement, we are required to make cash payments under the TRA to the ESA Parties in amounts equal to 90% of our actual tax benefit realized from the tax amortization of the basis difference for certain deferred assets noted above. Following the increase in the valuation allowance as of December 31, 2020, the Company recorded a corresponding \$151.9 million reduction to the "Payable to ESA Parties under the tax receivable agreement" equal to the portion of the payable related to 90% of the amortization of the expected benefits from the realization of the deferred tax assets deemed not more-likely-than-not to be realized as of December 31, 2020. Once the Company returns to a more normal operating level and emerges from a three-year cumulative pre-tax book loss position, part or all the valuation allowance is expected to reverse, resulting in an inverse impact to the payable to ESA Parties under the tax receivable agreement which would increase to reflect future payments to the ESA Parties at that time. The requirements of the TRA, as amended, are highly technical and complex and involve management's judgment, including judgments to determine hypothetical tax outcomes exclusive of the IPO date transaction and agreements. Management performs thorough analysis of the estimate each quarter and upon new information or conditions will refine its estimate. If we

were to fail to meet certain of the requirements of the TRA, we could be subject to additional payments to taxing authorities or to the ESA Parties. We recognize the tax benefit from an uncertain tax position only when it is more likely than not, based on the technical merits of the position, that the tax position will be sustained upon examination, including the resolution of any related appeals or litigation. The tax benefits recognized in the audited Consolidated Financial Statements from such a position are measured as the largest benefit that has a greater than fifty percent likelihood of being realized upon ultimate resolution.

Our ability to use our net operating losses ("NOLs") to offset future taxable income may be subject to certain limitations. In general, under Section 382 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, a corporation that undergoes an ownership change is subject to limitations on its ability to utilize NOLs existing prior to the ownership change period to offset future taxable income subsequent to the ownership change. Management concluded that NCM Inc. had an ownership change upon emergence from the Chapter 11 Case and if there is a future change in our stock ownership (which may be outside of our control) the change could result in an additional ownership change further limiting our ability to utilize NOLs in accordance with Section 382 of the Code. As of January 1, 2026, the Company had gross federal net operating loss carryforwards subject to IRC 382 limitations of \$61.6 million, gross state net operating loss carryforwards of \$96.3 million subject to 382 limitations, \$14.5 million of IRC 163(j) excess business interest expense carryforwards subject to IRC 382 limitations, and \$1.5 million of federal Research & Development credits subject to 382 limitations.

For fiscal 2025, our provision for income taxes was \$0.0 million. Changes in management's estimates and assumptions regarding the enacted tax rate applied to deferred tax assets and liabilities, the ability to realize the value of deferred tax assets, or the timing of the reversal of tax basis differences and judgments used to determine hypothetical tax outcomes exclusive of the IPO date transaction and agreements could impact the provision for income taxes and change the effective tax rate.

Share-based Compensation

During 2024, a portion of the restricted stock units issued by the Company vest subject to market-based metrics. We measured the fair value of these awards on the date of grant using a Monte Carlo simulation model. This model considers various subjective assumptions as inputs, and represent our best estimates, which involve inherent uncertainties and the application of our judgment as it relates to market volatilities, the historical volatility of our stock price, risk-free rates and expected life. The valuation model also incorporates exercise and forfeiture assumptions based on an analysis of historical data. Determining these assumptions is subjective and complex, and therefore, a change in the assumptions utilized could impact the calculation of the fair value of our market-based share awards and the associated compensation expense. Refer to Note 11—*Share Based Compensation* in the notes to our consolidated financial statements for further information regarding our share-based compensation awards.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

For a discussion of the recent accounting pronouncements relevant to our business operations, refer to the information provided under Note 1 to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements included elsewhere in this document.

Related-Party Transactions

For a discussion of the related-party transactions, refer to the information provided under Note 9 to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements included elsewhere in this document.

Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

Interest Rate Risk

The primary market risk to which we are exposed is interest rate risk. On January 24, 2025, NCM LLC entered into the 2025 Credit Facility. The maximum capacity that NCM LLC has access to under the 2025 Credit Facility is \$45.0 million. The interest rate under the 2025 Credit Facility is a floating rate equal to term SOFR (subject to a floor of zero) plus an applicable margin of 2.00%, which is subject to increase by an additional 2.00% upon the occurrence of an event of default. As of January 1, 2026, the Company has an outstanding balance of \$12.0 million on the 2025 Credit Facility. If the Company had drawn down on the maximum capacity of the 2025 Credit Facility of \$45.0 million, a 100-basis point fluctuation in market interest rates would have the effect of increasing or decreasing our cash interest expense by approximately \$0.5 million for an annual period.

Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data

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REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

Board of Directors and Stockholders National CineMedia, Inc.

Opinion on the financial statements

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of National CineMedia, Inc. (a Delaware corporation) and subsidiaries (the “Company”) as of January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, the related consolidated statements of operations, equity/(deficit), and cash flows for each of the two years ended January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, and the related notes (collectively referred to as the “consolidated financial statements”). In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the two years ended January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (“PCAOB”), the Company’s internal control over financial reporting as of January 1, 2026, based on criteria established in the 2013 *Internal Control—Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (“COSO”), and our report dated February 26, 2026 expressed an unqualified opinion.

Basis for opinion

These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company’s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company’s consolidated financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Critical audit matter

The critical audit matters communicated below is a matter arising from the current period audit of the financial statements that was communicated or required to be communicated to the audit committee and that: (1) relates to accounts or disclosures that are material to the financial statements and (2) involved our especially challenging, subjective, or complex judgments. The communication of critical audit matters does not alter in any way our opinion on the financial statements, taken as a whole, and we are not, by communicating the critical audit matter below, providing a separate opinion on the critical audit matter or on the accounts or disclosures to which it relates.

Income Taxes – Tax Receivable Agreement

As described further in Notes 1, 7 and 9 to the consolidated financial statements, the Company and the ESA Parties entered into the Tax Receivable Agreement (“TRA”) at the time of the Company’s initial public offering (“IPO”). Under the terms of this agreement, the Company will make cash payments to the ESA Parties in amounts equal to 90% of the Company’s actual tax benefit realized from the tax amortization of the intangible assets associated with the ESA agreements. For purposes of the TRA, cash savings in income tax will be computed by comparing the Company’s actual income and franchise tax liability to the amount of such taxes that the Company would have been required to pay had there been no increase in the Company’s proportionate share of tax basis in National CineMedia, LLC’s (“NCM LLC”) tangible and intangible assets. The TRA applies to the Company’s taxable years up to and including the 30th anniversary of the IPO.

The requirements of the TRA, as amended, are highly technical and complex and involve management’s judgment, including judgments to determine hypothetical tax outcomes exclusive of the IPO date transaction and agreements and requires the Company to estimate amounts payable based on new information or conditions under the TRA. In addition to the termination of AMC’s rights under the TRA, changes in the Company’s forecasted tax rate and in the Company’s period of forecasting book income utilized for measuring the future amounts probable to be paid under the TRA led to a re-measurement of the payable, resulting in a decrease during the fiscal year of \$30.2 million. At January 1, 2026, the Company’s payable under the TRA was \$33.8 million; of which \$2.9 million is presented as a component of current liabilities and \$30.9 million is

presented as a component of non-current liabilities. We identified the estimation of the payable under the TRA as a critical audit matter.

The principal considerations for our determination that the computation of the payable under the TRA represents a critical audit matter is complexity of the calculations and the significant inputs and assumptions required by management when estimating the forecasted book income of the Company. Evaluating the reasonableness of these inputs and assumptions requires significant auditor judgment. The amount of the payable under the TRA, as well as the timing of such payments, is dependent upon a number of complex items including the amount and timing of taxable income the Company generates in future periods until the payable under the TRA is settled.

Our audit procedures related to the estimation of the payable under the TRA included the following, among others:

- (i) We obtained and evaluated support for the methodology used to calculate the payable under the TRA and compared the assumptions used in management's analysis to other audit testing performed, including the consideration of the facts and circumstances determined to be the basis for the use of three years of projections.
- (ii) We performed sensitivity analyses over certain assumptions in the forecasted book income utilized in the TRA calculation model.
- (iii) We evaluated the reasonableness of significant assumptions used to develop the forecasted book income projections, including testing the underlying source of information and the mathematical accuracy of the calculations, used within management's liquidity model to estimate book income, which included assumptions such as revenue growth rates and operating expenses, and comparing them to historical amounts, industry and economic trends, and by tracing them to underlying source information.
- (iv) We evaluated management's computation of adjustments to the year-end balance of the payable under the TRA amount by analyzing the model used to compute the liability for technical and mathematical accuracy and identified, tested, and substantiated the key inputs and assumptions used by management within the model including: exchange activity in the period, ownership percentages, state tax rates and apportionment, projections of income, and reversal patterns of existing book and tax differences.

/s/ GRANT THORNTON LLP

We have served as the Company's auditor since 2024.

Denver, Colorado
February 26, 2026

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the stockholders and the Board of Directors of National CineMedia, Inc.

Opinion on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying consolidated statements of operations, equity/(deficit), and cash flows, for the period ended December 28, 2023, and the related notes (collectively referred to as the "financial statements") of National CineMedia, Inc. and subsidiaries (the "Company"). In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the results of its operations and its cash flows for the period ended December 28, 2023, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB) and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. The Company is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. As part of our audits, we are required to obtain an understanding of internal control over financial reporting but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. Our audit included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our audit also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

/s/ Deloitte & Touche LLP

Denver, Colorado

March 18, 2024 (March 6, 2025, as to the effects of the adoption of ASU 2023-07, *Improvements to Reportable Segment Disclosures*, described in Note 1 within the captions labeled Segment Reporting and Capital Expenditures)

We began serving as the Company's auditor in 2006. In 2024 we became the predecessor auditor.

NATIONAL CINEMEDIA, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
(In millions, except share and per share data)

	January 1, 2026	December 26, 2024
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS:		
Cash and cash equivalents.....	\$ 34.6	\$ 75.1
Restricted cash	3.0	3.0
Receivables, net of allowance of \$1.1 and \$1.2, respectively	96.5	85.3
Amounts due from ESA Parties.....	—	10.6
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	4.0	3.9
Total current assets.....	138.1	177.9
NON-CURRENT ASSETS:		
Property and equipment, net of accum. depreciation of \$8.4 and \$4.8, respectively	19.4	16.4
Intangible assets, net of accum. amortization of \$86.1 and \$52.8, respectively.....	308.8	350.8
Goodwill.....	0.5	—
Other investments	8.1	3.8
Debt issuance costs, net	0.7	1.6
Other assets	15.0	18.1
Total non-current assets	352.5	390.7
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 490.6	\$ 568.6
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		
CURRENT LIABILITIES:		
Amounts due to ESA Parties, net.....	\$ 6.8	\$ 3.8
Payable under the TRA.....	2.9	4.1
Accrued expenses.....	1.9	1.6
Accrued payroll and related expenses.....	12.1	15.6
Accounts payable	26.1	23.0
Deferred revenue.....	10.8	23.6
Other current liabilities	1.5	1.8
Total current liabilities.....	62.1	73.5
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES:		
Long-term debt.....	12.0	10.0
Payable under the TRA.....	30.9	59.9
Long-term lease liabilities.....	9.3	12.5
Other liabilities.....	0.9	1.5
Total non-current liabilities.....	53.1	83.9
Total liabilities	115.2	157.4
COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES (NOTE 13)		
EQUITY:		
NCM, Inc. Stockholders' Equity:		
Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value; 10,000,000 shares authorized, 50 issued and outstanding, respectively.....	—	—
Common stock, \$0.01 par value; 260,000,000 shares authorized, 93,353,604 and 95,755,491 issued and outstanding, respectively	2.5	2.5
Additional paid in capital.....	136.5	127.8
Retained earnings.....	236.4	280.9
Total NCM, Inc. stockholders' equity	375.4	411.2
Noncontrolling interests.....	—	—
Total equity	375.4	411.2
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$ 490.6	\$ 568.6

Refer to accompanying notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

NATIONAL CINEMEDIA, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS
(In millions, except share and per share data)

	Years Ended		
	January 1, 2026	December 26, 2024	December 28, 2023
Revenue (including revenue from related parties of \$0.1, \$0.0 and \$14.2, respectively).....	\$ 243.2	\$ 240.8	\$ 165.2
OPERATING EXPENSES:			
Network operating costs.....	13.0	13.7	10.6
Theater exhibition fees (including fees to related parties of \$0.0, \$0.0 and \$16.5, respectively).....	118.5	111.9	69.5
Selling and marketing costs.....	41.6	41.6	29.6
Administrative and other costs.....	46.1	50.7	57.3
Depreciation expense.....	4.6	4.6	3.1
Amortization expense.....	33.3	37.8	22.4
Total.....	<u>257.1</u>	<u>260.3</u>	<u>192.5</u>
OPERATING LOSS.....	<u>(13.9)</u>	<u>(19.5)</u>	<u>(27.3)</u>
NON-OPERATING EXPENSE (INCOME):			
Interest on borrowings.....	0.6	1.7	27.9
Interest income.....	(1.4)	(2.4)	(0.1)
(Gain) loss on re-measurement of the payable under the tax receivable agreement.....	(3.7)	4.6	9.3
Loss on debt extinguishment.....	1.8	—	—
Gain on deconsolidation of affiliate.....	—	—	(557.7)
Gain on re-measurement of investment in NCM LLC.....	—	—	(35.5)
Gain on reconsolidation of NCM LLC.....	—	—	(167.8)
Other non-operating income, net.....	(0.6)	(1.3)	(0.1)
Total.....	<u>(3.3)</u>	<u>2.6</u>	<u>(724.0)</u>
(LOSS) INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAXES.....	<u>(10.6)</u>	<u>(22.1)</u>	<u>696.7</u>
Income tax expense.....	—	0.2	—
CONSOLIDATED NET (LOSS) INCOME.....	<u>(10.6)</u>	<u>(22.3)</u>	<u>696.7</u>
Less: Net loss attributable to noncontrolling interests.....	—	—	(8.5)
NET (LOSS) INCOME ATTRIBUTABLE TO NCM, INC.....	<u>(10.6)</u>	<u>(22.3)</u>	<u>705.2</u>
COMPREHENSIVE (LOSS) INCOME ATTRIBUTABLE TO NCM, INC.....	<u>\$ (10.6)</u>	<u>\$ (22.3)</u>	<u>\$ 705.2</u>
NET (LOSS) INCOME PER NCM, INC. COMMON SHARE:			
Basic.....	\$ (0.11)	\$ (0.23)	\$ 14.73
Diluted.....	\$ (0.11)	\$ (0.23)	\$ 14.34
WEIGHTED AVERAGE SHARES OUTSTANDING:			
Basic.....	94,182,400	95,865,998	47,882,944
Diluted.....	94,182,400	95,865,998	48,574,583

Refer to accompanying notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

NATIONAL CINEMEDIA, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF EQUITY/ (DEFICIT)
(In millions, except share and per share data)

	NCM, Inc.							
	Consolidated	Common Stock		Preferred Stock		Additional Paid in Capital (Deficit)	Retained Earnings (Distributions in Excess of Earnings)	Noncontrolling Interest
		Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount			
Balance—December 29, 2022	\$ (464.0)	12,840,264	\$ 1.3	—	\$ —	\$ (146.2)	\$ (370.4)	\$ 51.3
Deconsolidation of affiliate	(33.4)	—	—	—	—	(15.3)	(18.1)	—
Income tax and other impacts of NCM LLC ownership changes	(9.5)	—	—	—	—	33.6	(0.1)	(43.0)
Issuance of shares.....	242.5	83,722,159	1.2	50	—	241.3	—	—
NCM LLC common membership unit redemption	(2.6)	—	—	—	—	(2.6)	—	—
Comprehensive income, net of tax	696.7	—	—	—	—	—	705.2	(8.5)
Share-based compensation issued, net of tax.....	0.1	274,616	0.1	—	—	—	—	—
Share-based compensation expense/capitalized.....	4.7	—	—	—	—	4.5	—	0.2
Balance—December 28, 2023	<u>\$ 434.5</u>	<u>96,837,039</u>	<u>\$ 2.6</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 115.3</u>	<u>\$ 316.6</u>	<u>\$ —</u>
NCM LLC equity issued for purchase of an intangible asset	0.7	—	—	—	—	0.7	—	—
Cash redemption of NCM LLC common membership units	(0.7)	—	—	—	—	(0.7)	—	—
Purchases of NCM, Inc.'s common stock.....	(13.5)	(2,524,991)	(0.1)	—	—	—	(13.4)	—
Comprehensive loss, net of tax	(22.3)	—	—	—	—	—	(22.3)	—
Share-based compensation issued, net of tax.....	0.1	1,443,443	—	—	—	0.1	—	—
Share-based compensation expense/capitalized.....	12.4	—	—	—	—	12.4	—	—
Balance—December 26, 2024	<u>\$ 411.2</u>	<u>95,755,491</u>	<u>\$ 2.5</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 127.8</u>	<u>\$ 280.9</u>	<u>\$ —</u>
Purchases of NCM, Inc.'s common stock.....	(22.3)	(4,085,441)	—	—	—	—	(22.3)	—
Comprehensive loss, net of tax	(10.6)	—	—	—	—	—	(10.6)	—
Share-based compensation issued, net of tax.....	(0.6)	1,683,554	—	—	—	(0.6)	—	—
Share-based compensation expense/capitalized.....	9.3	—	—	—	—	9.3	—	—
Cash dividends declared \$0.12 per share.....	(11.6)	—	—	—	—	—	(11.6)	—
Balance—January 1, 2026.....	<u>\$ 375.4</u>	<u>93,353,604</u>	<u>\$ 2.5</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 136.5</u>	<u>\$ 236.4</u>	<u>\$ —</u>

Refer to accompanying notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

NATIONAL CINEMEDIA, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
(In millions)

	Years Ended		
	January 1, 2026	December 26, 2024	December 28, 2023
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:			
Consolidated net (loss) income	\$ (10.6)	\$ (22.3)	\$ 696.7
Adjustments to reconcile consolidated net (loss) income to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:			
Depreciation expense.....	4.6	4.6	3.1
Amortization expense.....	33.3	37.8	22.4
Non-cash share-based compensation	9.3	12.2	4.5
Amortization of debt issuance costs	0.4	0.8	3.4
Non-cash (gain) loss on re-measurement of the TRA payable.....	(3.7)	4.6	9.3
Non-cash consideration received for advertising services	(2.3)	—	—
Gain on deconsolidation of affiliate.....	—	—	(557.7)
Gain on re-measurement of NCM LLC.....	—	—	(35.5)
Gain on reconsolidation of NCM LLC.....	—	—	(167.8)
Other.....	1.8	(0.5)	(0.3)
ESA Party integration and encumbered theater payments.....	0.7	1.2	5.0
Payments to the ESA Parties under the tax receivable agreement.....	(1.3)	—	—
Proceeds received from equity method investment.....	0.6	—	—
Other cash flows from operating activities, net.....	(0.3)	—	(0.8)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:			
Receivables, net	(8.9)	10.6	36.3
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	(3.3)	(0.1)	(2.7)
Amounts due to ESA Parties, net	2.8	2.5	(4.2)
Deferred revenue.....	(14.6)	13.2	(5.4)
Prepaid expenses.....	0.5	(4.9)	(11.0)
Other, net	(0.6)	0.6	(2.0)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities.....	<u>8.4</u>	<u>60.3</u>	<u>(6.7)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:			
Purchases of property and equipment	(5.6)	(5.8)	(3.3)
Purchase of strategic investments.....	(2.0)	(1.0)	—
Purchase of a business	(7.5)	—	—
Cash contributed upon reconsolidation	—	—	(15.5)
Cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash reconsolidated.....	—	—	49.5
Proceeds received from equity method investment.....	—	1.2	0.6
Other cash flows from investing activities, net	(0.3)	(0.1)	1.3
Net cash (used in) provided by investing activities.....	<u>(15.4)</u>	<u>(5.7)</u>	<u>32.6</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:			
Payment of dividends	(11.4)	(0.3)	(0.5)
Purchases of NCM, Inc.'s common stock	(22.0)	(13.1)	—
Repayments of term loan facilities	(20.0)	—	(0.8)
Proceeds from term loan facilities.....	22.0	—	—
Removal of cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash of unconsolidated affiliate	—	—	(49.6)
Payment of debt issuance costs.....	(1.5)	—	(1.2)
Other cash flows from financing activities	(0.6)	(0.7)	—
Net cash used in financing activities.....	<u>(33.5)</u>	<u>(14.1)</u>	<u>(52.1)</u>
CHANGE IN CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS AND RESTRICTED CASH.....			
	(40.5)	40.5	(26.2)
Cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash at beginning of period.....	78.1	37.6	63.8
Cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash at end of period.....	<u>\$ 37.6</u>	<u>\$ 78.1</u>	<u>\$ 37.6</u>

Refer to accompanying notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

NATIONAL CINEMEDIA, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (CONTINUED)
(In millions)

	Years Ended		
	January 1, 2026	December 26, 2024	December 28, 2023
Supplemental disclosure of non-cash financing and investing activity:			
Purchase of an intangible asset with NCM LLC equity	\$ —	\$ 0.7	\$ —
Issuance of shares upon the reconsolidation of NCM LLC	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 245.3
Fair value of NCM LLC net assets reconsolidated, net of cash	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 433.8
Purchase of subsidiary equity with NCM, Inc. equity	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 2.6
Accrued purchases of property and equipment	\$ —	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.8
Right of use assets obtained in exchange for lease liabilities.....	\$ —	\$ 9.1	\$ —
Cost method investment obtained in exchange for advertising inventory	\$ 2.3	\$ 2.0	\$ —
Increase in dividend equivalent accrual not requiring cash in the period	\$ 0.2	\$ —	\$ —
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:			
Cash paid for interest.....	\$ 0.2	\$ 0.9	\$ 12.5
Cash payments for income taxes.....	\$ —	\$ 0.1	\$ —

Refer to accompanying notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

NATIONAL CINEMEDIA, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. BASIS OF PRESENTATION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

NCM, Inc. was incorporated in Delaware as a holding company formed with the purpose of becoming a member and sole manager of NCM LLC, a limited liability company primarily owned by NCM, Inc. The terms “NCM”, “the Company” or “we” shall, unless the context otherwise requires, be deemed to include the consolidated entity. NCM, Inc. has no business operations or material assets other than its cash and cash equivalents and ownership interest of 100.0% of the common membership units in NCM LLC as of January 1, 2026.

The Company operates the largest cinema advertising network reaching movie audiences in the U.S., allowing NCM LLC to sell advertising under long-term ESAs with the ESA Parties and certain third-party network affiliates, under long-term network affiliate agreements. As of January 1, 2026, the weighted average remaining term of the ESAs is approximately 15.6 years. The network affiliate agreements expire at various dates between March 31, 2026 and July 13, 2033, with our largest affiliate agreement expiring on July 13, 2033. The weighted average remaining term of the ESAs and the network affiliate agreements together is 11.8 years as of January 1, 2026. In November of 2025, NCM extended its reach by acquiring Spotlight and the Spotlight Cinema Network, a U.S. cinema advertising company dedicated to serving art house, luxury and dine-in exhibitors. Spotlight and the Spotlight Cinema Network presents the *CineLife*® Show exclusively in 108 leading national and regional theater circuits consisting of more than 1,200 screens in over 200 theaters.

In accordance with the Common Unit Adjustment Agreement, Cinemark has the right to potentially receive additional common membership units in NCM LLC in the future. Following the effectiveness of the AMC Termination Agreement, AMC will no longer receive NCM LLC membership units as part of the Common Unit Adjustment Agreement. As of January 1, 2026, AMC and Cinemark have no ownership interest in NCM LLC. AMC and Cinemark and their affiliates are referred to in this document as “ESA Parties”.

NCM, Inc.’s primary source of cash flow from operations is distributions from NCM LLC pursuant to the NCM LLC Operating Agreement. NCM, Inc. also receives management fees pursuant to a management services agreement with NCM LLC in exchange for providing specified management services to NCM LLC.

Basis of Presentation

The Company has prepared its Consolidated Financial Statements and related notes of NCM, Inc. in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (“GAAP”) and the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”).

In the opinion of management, all adjustments necessary to present fairly in all material respects the financial position, results of operations and cash flows for all periods presented have been made and all intercompany accounts have been eliminated in consolidation. The Company has reclassified certain historical amounts on the Consolidated Balance Sheets, Statements of Operations and Statements of Cash Flows to conform to current period presentation. In the year ended December 26, 2024, the Company reclassified certain historical expenses on the audited Consolidated Statements of Operations from ‘Advertising operating costs’ and ‘Network costs’ to ‘Network operating costs’ and certain historical expenses from ‘Advertising operating costs’ and ‘ESA theater access fees and revenue shares’ to ‘Theater exhibition fees’ to conform to current period presentation. As a result of the various related-party agreements discussed in Note 9—*Related Party Transactions*, the operating results as presented are not necessarily indicative of the results that might have occurred if all agreements were with non-related third parties.

Estimates—The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Significant estimates include those related to the reserve for uncollectible accounts receivable, share-based compensation, income taxes, intangible assets, the valuation of NCM LLC upon deconsolidation and reconsolidation and the valuation of strategic investments upon acquisition. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

NATIONAL CINEMEDIA, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Bankruptcy Filing, Deconsolidation and Reconsolidation of NCM LLC—On April 11, 2023, NCM LLC filed a voluntary petition for reorganization with a prearranged Chapter 11 plan under Chapter 11 of Title 11 of the United States Code in the Bankruptcy Code in the Bankruptcy Court (the “Chapter 11 Case”). During the Chapter 11 Case, the Company was deemed to no longer control NCM LLC for accounting purposes and NCM LLC was deconsolidated from the Company’s financial statements prospectively as of April 11, 2023. NCM LLC does not have a readily determinable fair value. Upon the deconsolidation of NCM LLC, the original cost of the investment was valued based upon NCM, Inc.’s ownership of the secured debt of NCM LLC and the estimation of the enterprise value of NCM LLC utilizing a combination of a market approach and income approach. The market approach relied upon a comparison with guideline public companies and entails selecting relevant financial information of the subject company and capitalizing those amounts using valuation multiples that are based on empirical market observation. The income approach relied upon an analysis of NCM LLC’s projected economic earnings discounted to present value. Significant assumptions utilized within these analyses include the weighted average cost of capital and NCM LLC’s forecasted cash flows.

Upon emergence from bankruptcy, NCM, Inc., regained control and retained 100.0% ownership of NCM LLC, after taking into account elections by the holders of Secured Debt Claims to receive NCM, Inc. common stock in lieu of NCM LLC common units and was therefore reconsolidated into the Company’s financial statements prospectively as of August 7, 2023 akin to an acquisition under *ASC 805 – Business Combinations*. The acquisition method requires the Company to make significant estimates and assumptions, especially at the acquisition date as the Company allocates the estimated fair values of acquired tangible and intangible assets and the liabilities assumed. The Company also uses our best estimates to determine the useful lives of the tangible and definite-lived intangible assets, which impact the periods over which depreciation and amortization of those assets are recognized. All balances within the Company’s financial statements reflect NCM LLC activity only for the periods while consolidated, including all of the year ended January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024 and for the year ended December 28, 2023, December 30, 2022 through April 11, 2023 and August 7, 2023 through December 28, 2023.

Significant Accounting Policies

Accounting Period—The Company has a 52-week or 53-week fiscal year ending on the first Thursday after December 25. Fiscal year 2023 contained 52 weeks, 2024 contained 52 weeks and 2025 contained 53 weeks. Throughout this document, the fiscal years are referred to as set forth below:

<u>Fiscal Year Ended</u>	<u>Reference in this Document</u>
January 1, 2026.....	2025
December 26, 2024.....	2024
December 28, 2023.....	2023

Revenue Recognition—The Company derives revenue principally from the sale of advertising to national, regional and local businesses in *Noovie®*, our cinema advertising and entertainment show seen on movie screens across the U.S., as well as on our LEN, a series of strategically-placed screens located in movie theater lobbies, as well as other forms of advertising, promotions and experiences in theater lobbies. In addition, the Company sells data and digital advertising, including through *NCM BoostSM*, *BoomerangSM*, *BullseyeSM* and *BlueprintSM* as well as advertising in a variety of complementary out of home venues. The Company also has a long-term agreement to exhibit the advertising of the ESA Parties’ beverage suppliers. The Company considers the terms of each arrangement to determine the appropriate accounting treatment as more fully discussed in Note 2—*Revenue from Contracts with Customers*.

Operating Costs—The Company classifies its core operating expenses within the following categories on the audited Consolidated Statements of Operations:

Network operating costs—This balance relates to advertising fulfillment-related operating costs primarily consisting of personnel costs, satellite bandwidth, repairs and other costs of maintaining and operating the digital network as well as preparing advertising and other content for transmission across the digital network. To a lesser extent, this balance also includes production costs of non-digital advertising and revenue share and per patron based fees due to certain sales partners.

Theater exhibition fees—This balance relates to fees the Company pays its ESA Parties and network affiliates in return for the rights to advertise in their theaters. These fees vary by exhibitor, but may be comprised of a revenue share or the combination of a payment per theater attendee, a payment for post-showtime advertising, a payment per digital screen or digital cinema projector equipped in the theaters, all of which may escalate over time, and a revenue share for the Platinum Spot or other premium advertising spots, when sold.

Selling and marketing costs—This balance consists primarily of sales personnel costs including sales commissions and selling related expenses such as travel, barter and bad debt expense; marketing expenses including research subscriptions

NATIONAL CINEMEDIA, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

and studies and production costs for internal segments shown within The *Noovie*® Show; lease expense for the Company’s sales offices and costs associated with digital inventory, including revenue shares paid to DOOH and other partners.

Administrative and other costs—This balance consists of personnel costs for the Company’s executives as well as administrative functions including legal, information technology and accounting, lease expense for the Company’s headquarters, legal and professional fees, cloud computing costs for the Company’s cinema advertising management system and repairs and maintenance costs.

Cash and Cash Equivalents—All highly liquid debt instruments and investments purchased with an original maturity of three months or less are classified as cash equivalents and are considered available-for-sale securities. The Company held cash balances in a bank in excess of the federally insured limits or in the form of a money market demand account with a major financial institution as of January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024. The Company has elected the fair value option for valuing its cash equivalents. The cash equivalents are valued at fair value at each balance sheet date and the change in value from the prior period is recognized within “Other non-operating income, net” on the audited Consolidated Statements of Operations.

Restricted Cash—The Company’s restricted cash balance was \$3.0 million and \$3.0 million for the years ended January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, respectively. The balance is related to unsettled, agreed upon payments to NCM LLC’s unsecured creditors within the escrow accounts and included within “Accounts payable” on the audited Consolidated Balance Sheets.

Marketable Securities—The Company’s marketable securities are classified as available-for-sale and are reported at fair value. The fair value of substantially all securities is determined by quoted market information and pricing models using inputs based upon market information, including contractual terms, market prices and yield curves. The estimated fair value of securities for which there are no quoted market prices is based on similar types of securities that are traded in the market. The change in value from the prior period is recognized within “Other non-operating income, net” on the audited Consolidated Statements of Operations.

Concentration of Credit Risk and Significant Customers—The risk of credit loss related to the Company’s trade receivables and unbilled receivables balances is accounted for through the allowance for credit losses, a contra asset account which reduces the net receivables balance. The allowance for credit losses balance is determined by pooling the Company’s receivables with similar risk characteristics, specifically by type of customer (national or local/ regional) and then age of receivable and applying historical write-off percentages to these pools in order to determine the amount of expected credit losses as of the balance sheet date. National receivables are with large advertising agencies with strong reputations in the advertising industry and clients with stable financial positions and good credit ratings, represent larger receivables balances per customer and have significantly lower historical and expected credit loss patterns. Local and regional receivables are with smaller companies sometimes with less credit history and represent smaller receivable balances per customer and higher historical and expected credit loss patterns. The Company has smaller contracts with many local clients that are not individually significant. The Company also considers current economic conditions and trends to determine whether adjustments to historical loss rates are necessary. The Company also reserves for specific receivable balances that it expects to write off based on known concerns regarding the financial health of the customer. Receivables are written off when management determines amounts are uncollectible. The Company did not have any agencies through which it sourced advertising revenue that accounted for 10% or more of the Company’s gross outstanding receivable balance as of January 1, 2026. The Company had one agency through which it sourced advertising revenue that accounted for 14.7% of the Company’s gross outstanding receivable balance as of December 26, 2024. During the year ended December 26, 2024, the Company did not have a customer that accounted for 10% or more of the Company’s revenue. During the years ended January 1, 2026 and December 28, 2023, the Company had one customer that accounted for 11.0% and 11.2% of the Company’s revenue, respectively.

Receivables consisted of the following (in millions):

	As of	
	January 1, 2026	December 26, 2024
Trade accounts.....	\$ 97.1	\$ 83.2
Other.....	0.5	3.3
Less: Allowance for credit losses.....	(1.1)	(1.2)
Total.....	\$ 96.5	\$ 85.3

Property and Equipment—Property and equipment is stated at cost, net of accumulated depreciation or amortization. Generally, the equipment associated with the digital network of the ESA Party theaters is owned by the ESA Parties, while the equipment associated with network affiliate theaters is owned by the Company. Major renewals and improvements are capitalized, while replacements, maintenance and repairs that do not improve or extend the lives of the respective assets are

NATIONAL CINEMEDIA, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

expensed as incurred. The Company records depreciation using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

Equipment.....	3-10 years
Computer hardware and software.....	2-10 years
Leasehold improvements.....	Lesser of lease term or asset life

Software and website development costs developed or obtained for internal use are accounted for in accordance with ASC 350—*Internal Use Software* and ASC 350—*Website Development Costs*. The subtopics require the capitalization of certain costs incurred in developing or obtaining software for internal use. Software costs related primarily to the Company’s cinema advertising management system, digital products, digital network distribution system (DCS), enterprise resource planning system and website development costs, which are included in equipment, and are depreciated over three to ten years. As of January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, the Company had a net book value of \$8.9 million and \$9.1 million, respectively, of capitalized software and website development costs. Depreciation expense related to software and website development was approximately \$2.3 million, \$2.4 million and \$1.8 million for the years ended January 1, 2026, December 26, 2024 and December 28, 2023, respectively. The subtopics also require the capitalization of certain implementation costs related to qualifying Cloud Computing Arrangements (“CCAs”) upon adoption of ASU 2018-15—*Intangibles - Goodwill and Other - Customer’s Accounting for Implementation Costs Incurred in a Cloud Computing Arrangement That Is a Service Contract* as of September 28, 2018. As of January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, the Company had a net book value of \$4.3 million and \$4.3 million of capitalized implementation costs for CCAs, respectively, recorded within “Other assets” in the Consolidated Balance Sheets. These costs primarily relate to the Company’s hosted cinema advertising management system which was implemented in January 2021. Depreciation expense related to capitalized implementation costs for CCAs was approximately \$0.7 million, \$0.6 million and \$0.5 million for the years ended January 1, 2026, December 26, 2024 and December 28, 2023, respectively. These costs are amortized to “Administrative and other costs” within the audited Consolidated Statements of Operations over the life of the hosting arrangement beginning at implementation. For the years ended January 1, 2026, December 26, 2024 and December 28, 2023, the Company recorded \$3.1 million, \$3.3 million and \$3.0 million in research and development expense, respectively.

The Company assesses impairment of property and equipment pursuant with ASC 360 – *Property, Plant and Equipment*. This includes determining if certain triggering events have occurred that could affect the value of an asset. The Company did not record any losses related to property and equipment during the years ended January 1, 2026, December 26, 2024 and December 28, 2023, respectively.

Investments—The Company’s equity investments with readily determinable fair values are measured at fair value. Equity investments without readily determinable fair values are measured at cost with adjustments for observable changes in price or impairments in accordance with the measurement alternative. The Company performs a qualitative assessment on a periodic basis and recognizes an impairment if there are sufficient indicators that the fair value of the investment is less than carrying value. Changes in value are recorded in ‘Other non-operating income, net’ within the audited Consolidated Statements of Operations.

Intangible Assets—The Company’s intangible assets consist of contractual rights to provide its services within the theaters under the ESAs and the network affiliate agreements, customer relationships developed and maintained by the Company’s sales force, trademarks held and used by the Company and datasets obtained. The intangible assets are stated at their estimated fair values upon the reconsolidation of NCM LLC on August 7, 2023 as further described within Note 5—*Business Combinations*, net of accumulated amortization. Subsequently acquired intangible assets are recorded at cost or their estimated fair values. The Company records amortization using the straight-line method over the estimated useful life of the intangibles, corresponding to the expected term of the ESAs, the average renewable term of the contracts with the network affiliates and affiliates within the Spotlight Cinema Network, industry standard lives for customer relationships and trademarks, contractual life for noncompete assets and for the datasets, to the shorter of the use rights outlined in the contract under which they were acquired and the estimated rate of obsolescence of the datasets’ usefulness. Intangible assets are tested for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be fully recoverable. In its impairment testing, the Company estimates the fair value of the intangible asset by determining the estimated future cash flows associated with the ESAs, network affiliate agreements, trademarks and noncompete agreements or the estimated replacement cost of the customer relationships and datasets. If after determining that gross cash flows are insufficient to recover the asset, the estimated fair value is less than the carrying value, the Company determines the fair value of the intangible asset and an impairment is recorded to write down the asset to its estimated fair value. Significant judgment is involved in estimating long-term cash flow forecasts and replacement costs.

The Company has elected to capitalize extension costs on its intangible assets and thus capitalized the legal and professional costs incurred in conjunction with the 2025 AMC Agreement.

NATIONAL CINEMEDIA, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Amounts Due to/from ESA Parties—Amounts due to/from ESA Parties include amounts due for the theater access fees and revenue share, offset by a receivable for advertising time purchased by the ESA Parties on behalf of their beverage concessionaire, plus any amounts outstanding under other contractually obligated payments. Payments to or received from the ESA Parties against outstanding balances are made monthly. Available cash distributions are made quarterly contingent upon the Cinemark's ownership of NCM LLC membership units, the Company's compliance with the covenants outlined within the Revolving Credit Facility 2025 and in accordance with the NCM LLC Operating Agreement.

Income Taxes—Income taxes are accounted for under the asset and liability method, which requires recognition of deferred tax assets and liabilities for the expected future tax consequences of events that have been included in the financial statements. Under this method, deferred tax assets and liabilities are determined based on the differences between the financial statements and tax basis of assets and liabilities using enacted tax rates in effect for the year in which differences are expected to be recovered or settled pursuant to the provisions of ASC 740 – *Income Taxes*. The effect of a change in tax rates on deferred tax assets and liabilities is recognized in income in the period that includes the enactment date.

The Company records a valuation allowance if it is deemed more likely than not that all or a portion of its deferred income tax assets will not be realized, which will be assessed on an on-going basis. Only the portion of deferred income tax assets deemed more likely than not to be realized and three years of financial projections are considered within the calculation of the payable to the ESA Parties under the TRA which is equal to 90% of the Company's actual tax benefit realized from the tax amortization of the basis difference for qualifying deferred income tax assets. The Company determined that a three year forecast period is appropriate as it represents the period for which the Company can reasonably estimate future taxable income. The estimated payable is sensitive to both changes in the period that can be reasonably forecasted as well as estimates of future taxable income. The payable may fluctuate within one year of the financial statement date to revisions in these assumptions. Refer to Note 7—*Income Taxes* to the audited Consolidated Financial Statements for discussion of changes within the Company's valuation allowance on its deferred tax assets and the payable to the ESA Parties under the TRA during the years ended January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024.

In addition, income tax rules and regulations are subject to interpretation and the application of those rules and regulations require judgment by the Company and may be challenged by the taxation authorities. The Company follows ASC 740-10-25, which requires the use of a two-step approach for recognizing and measuring tax benefits taken or expected to be taken in a tax return and disclosures regarding uncertainties in income tax positions. Only tax positions that meet the more likely than not recognition threshold are recognized.

The Company recognizes the tax benefits from uncertain tax positions only when it is more likely than not, based on the technical merits of the position, the tax position will be sustained upon examination, including the resolution of any related appeals or litigation. The tax benefits recognized in the Consolidated Financial Statements from such a position are measured as the largest benefit that has a greater than fifty percent likelihood of being realized upon ultimate resolution. The Company recognizes interest and penalties related to uncertain tax positions in income tax expense.

Debt Issuance Costs—In relation to the issuance of outstanding debt discussed in Note 10—*Borrowings*, there is a balance of \$0.7 million and \$1.6 million in deferred financing costs as of January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, respectively. The debt issuance costs are being amortized on a straight-line basis over the terms of the underlying obligations and are included in interest on borrowings, which approximates the effective interest method. Debt issuance costs are written-off in the event that the underlying debt is extinguished through partial or full repayment of the obligation.

The changes in debt issuance costs are as follows (in millions):

	Years Ended	
	January 1, 2026	December 26, 2024
Beginning balance	\$ 1.6	\$ 2.2
Write off of extinguished debt issuance costs	(1.4)	—
Debt issuance costs	0.9	0.2
Amortization of debt issuance costs	(0.4)	(0.8)
Ending balance	<u>\$ 0.7</u>	<u>\$ 1.6</u>

Share-Based Compensation—During 2025, the Company issued stock options and restricted stock units to certain employees and its independent directors. These restricted stock unit grants for Company management vest upon the achievement of Company three-year cumulative performance measures and/or service conditions, while non-management grants vest only upon the achievement of service conditions. During 2024, the Company issued restricted stock units to certain employees and its independent directors. These restricted stock unit grants for Company management vest upon the achievement of Company performance measures, market conditions and/or service conditions, while non-management grants vest only upon the achievement of service conditions. During 2023, the Company issued stock options and restricted stock units which vest upon the achievement of Company three-year cumulative performance measures and service conditions or

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only service conditions. The Company recognizes share-based compensation net of an estimated forfeiture rate. Compensation expense of restricted stock units that vest upon the achievement of Company performance measures is based on management's financial projections and the probability of achieving the projections, which requires considerable judgment. A cumulative adjustment is recorded to share-based compensation expense in periods that management changes its estimate of the number of shares expected to vest. Ultimately, the Company adjusts the expense recognized to reflect the actual vested shares following the resolution of the performance conditions. Compensation expense of restricted stock units that vest upon achievement of certain market conditions is based on an estimate of the fair value of the granted restricted stock units on the grant date utilizing the Monte Carlo model, which requires considerable judgment. The fair value of the granted restricted stock units is expensed over an estimated derived service period, which also requires considerable judgment. In accordance with *ASC 718—Stock Compensation*, the Company does not adjust the expense recognized to reflect the actual vested shares following the resolution of the market condition. Dividends are accrued when declared on unvested restricted stock units that are expected to vest and are only paid with respect to shares that actually vest.

Compensation cost of stock options is based on the estimated grant date fair value using the Black-Scholes option pricing model, which requires that the Company make estimates of various factors. Under the fair value recognition provisions of *ASC 718, Compensation—Stock Compensation*, the Company recognizes share-based compensation net of an estimated forfeiture rate, and therefore only recognizes compensation cost for those shares expected to vest over the requisite service period of the award. Refer to Note 11—*Share-Based Compensation* for more information.

Share Repurchase Program—On March 18, 2024, the Board of Directors of the Company approved a stock repurchase program under which the Company is authorized to use assets of the Company to repurchase up to \$100.0 million of shares of the Company's Common Stock, exclusive of any fees, commissions or other expenses related to such repurchases, from time to time over a period of three years. Shares may be repurchased under the program through open market purchases, block trades, or accelerated or other structured share repurchase programs. During the year ended January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, 4.1 million and 2.5 million shares were repurchased on the open market, respectively. In accordance with *ASC 505—Equity*, the Company elected to retire the shares. Upon the retirement of these shares, the excess over par value paid, inclusive of direct costs, of \$22.3 million and \$13.4 million was recorded as a reduction to retained earnings for the year ended January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, respectively.

Fair Value Measurements—Fair value is the price that would be received from selling an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Fair value is estimated by applying the following hierarchy, which prioritizes the inputs used to measure fair value into three levels and bases the categorization within the hierarchy upon the lowest level of input that is available and significant to the fair value measurement:

Level 1 – Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.

Level 2 – Observable inputs other than quoted prices in active markets for identical assets and liabilities, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets, or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the assets or liabilities.

Level 3 – Inputs that are generally unobservable and typically reflect management's estimate of assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability.

Segment Reporting—Advertising is the principal business activity of the Company and is the Company's only operating and reportable segment under the requirements of *ASC 280—Segment Reporting*. The Company's chief executive officer is the chief operating decision maker who reviews financial information on a consolidated basis for purposes of allocating resources and evaluating financial performance. The accounting policies of the one operating and reportable segment are the same as those described in the summary of significant accounting policies. All segment revenues relate to services performed within the United States. The Company's segment assets are generated and domiciled within the United States.

The chief operating decision maker assesses performance for the one operating and reportable segment and decides how to allocate resources using consolidated net (loss) income, as presented on the Consolidated Statement of Operations as 'Consolidated net (loss) income', among other measures. Consolidated net (loss) income is presented herein as the primary measure as it most closely aligns with US GAAP. The chief operating decision maker uses consolidated net (loss) income to decide whether to utilize profits to invest in the Company or to recommend actions to the Board of Directors such as stock repurchases or future dividends. Consolidated net (loss) income is also utilized to monitor actual results as compared to budgeted expectations to assess the performance of the one operating and reportable segment and in establishing management's compensation. The Company's significant segment expenses are consistent with the operating expense financial statement line items as presented within the Consolidated Statement of Operations. The Company's other segment items are consistent with the non-operating income and expense financial statement line items as presented within the Consolidated Statement of Operations.

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The measure of segment assets used to allocate resources is total assets as reported on the Consolidated Balance Sheets, inclusive of cash and cash equivalents as well as accounts receivable as reported on the Consolidated Balance Sheets as ‘Cash and cash equivalents’ and ‘Receivables, net of allowance’, respectively.

Capital Expenditures—Capital expenditures include digital applications being developed primarily by the Company’s programmers and outside consultants, capitalized software development or upgrades for the Company’s Digital Content Software, audience targeting and data management systems, cinema advertising management system, equipment required for the Company’s Customer Experience Center and content production and post-production facilities, office leasehold improvements, desktop equipment for use by employees, and in certain cases, the costs necessary to install equipment at or digitize all or a portion of a network affiliate’s theaters when they are added to the Company’s network. Capital expenditures for the years ended January 1, 2026, December 26, 2024 and December 28, 2023 were \$5.6 million, \$5.8 million and \$3.3 million, respectively.

Consolidation—NCM, Inc. consolidates the accounts of NCM LLC under the provisions of ASC 810—*Consolidation* (“ASC 810”). Under Accounting Standards Update 2015-2, Consolidation (Topic 810): Amendments to the Consolidation Analysis (“ASU 2015-2”), a limited partnership is a variable interest entity unless a simple majority or lower threshold of all limited partners unrelated to the general partner have kick-out or participating rights. The non-managing members of NCM LLC do not have dissolution rights or removal rights. NCM, Inc. has evaluated the provisions of the NCM LLC membership agreement and has concluded that the various rights of the non-managing members are not substantive participating rights under ASC 810, as they do not limit NCM, Inc.’s ability to make decisions in the ordinary course of business. The Company concluded that NCM LLC is a variable interest entity and determined that NCM, Inc. should consolidate the accounts of NCM LLC pursuant to ASU 2015-2 because 1) it has the power to direct the activities of NCM LLC in its role as managing member and 2) NCM, Inc. has the obligation to absorb losses of, or the right to receive benefits from NCM LLC, that could potentially be significant provided its 100.0% ownership in NCM LLC. Upon NCM LLC’s emergence from bankruptcy, it was determined that NCM, Inc. continues to hold the current rights that give it power to direct activities of NCM LLC that most significantly impact NCM LLC’s economic performance and that NCM, Inc. continues to have the rights to receive the significant benefits or the obligations to absorb potentially significant losses, resulting in NCM, Inc. having a controlling financial interest in NCM LLC. As a result, NCM, Inc. was deemed to be the primary beneficiary of NCM LLC and the Company has consolidated NCM LLC under the variable interest entity provisions of ASC 810—*Consolidation*.

The following table presents the changes in NCM, Inc.’s equity resulting from net income attributable to NCM, Inc. and transfers to or from noncontrolling interests (in millions):

	Years Ended		
	January 1, 2026	December 26, 2024	December 28, 2023
Net (loss) income attributable to NCM, Inc.	\$ (10.6)	\$ (22.3)	\$ 705.2
NCM LLC equity issued for purchase of intangible asset.....	—	0.7	—
Income tax and other impacts of NCM LLC ownership changes ..	—	—	33.6
Cash redemption of NCM LLC common membership units.....	—	(0.7)	—
NCM, Inc. investment in NCM LLC.....	—	—	(2.6)
Issuance of shares	—	—	241.3
Change from net (loss) income attributable to NCM, Inc. and transfers from noncontrolling interests.....	<u>\$ (10.6)</u>	<u>\$ (22.3)</u>	<u>\$ 977.5</u>

Recently Adopted Accounting Pronouncements

In January 2024, the FASB issued Accounting Standards Update No. 2023-09, Income Tax Disclosures (“ASU 2023-09”), which establishes new income tax disclosure requirements in addition to modifying and eliminating certain existing requirements. Under the new guidance, entities must consistently categorize and provide greater disaggregation of information in the rate reconciliation. They must also further disaggregate income taxes paid. This guidance is effective for issuances on annual periods beginning on and after December 15, 2024. The Company adopted this standard prospectively effective December 26, 2024 and included incremental disclosures within Note 7—*Income Taxes*. These additional disclosures did not have a material impact on the Company’s Consolidated Financial Statements.

The Company did not adopt any other accounting pronouncements during the years ended January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024.

Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements

In November 2024, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) issued Accounting Standards Update No. 2024-03, Expense Disaggregation Disclosures (“ASU 2024-03”), which expands the disclosures about a public business entity’s expenses and addresses requests from investors for more detailed information about the types of expenses in

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commonly presented expense captions. Under the new guidance, entities must disclose additional information about certain costs and expenses on an annual and interim basis to enable investors to develop more decision-useful financial analyses. This guidance is effective for issuances on and after December 15, 2026. The Company is still evaluating the expected impact this will have on the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements.

In September 2025, the FASB issued Accounting Standards Update No. 2025-06, Targeted Improvements to the Accounting for Internal-Use Software ("ASU 2025-06"), which modernizes the accounting for internally developed software costs. Under the new guidance, the accounting will better align with how software is developed and eliminates the stage-based rules by establishing a principles-based framework consistent with modern software development practices. This guidance is effective for issuances on and after December 15, 2027. The Company is still evaluating the expected impact this will have on the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements.

The Company has considered all other recently issued accounting pronouncements and does not believe the adoption of such pronouncements will have a material impact on its Consolidated Financial Statements or notes thereto.

2. REVENUE FROM CONTRACTS WITH CUSTOMERS

Revenue Recognition

The Company derives revenue principally from the sale of advertising to national, regional and local businesses in *Noovie*®, our cinema advertising and entertainment show seen on movie screens across the U.S., as well as on our LEN, a series of strategically-placed screens located in movie theater lobbies, as well as other forms of advertising, promotions and experiences in theater lobbies. In addition, the Company sells data and digital advertising, including through *NCM Boost*™, *Boomerang*™, *Bullseye*™ and *Blueprint*™. Further the Company sells advertising in a variety of complementary out of home venues. The Company also has a long-term agreement to exhibit the advertising of the ESA Parties' beverage suppliers.

National and regional advertising, including advertising under the beverage concessionaire and courtesy PSA agreements, are sold on a CPM basis. The Company predominantly recognizes national and regional advertising over time as impressions (or theater attendees) are delivered. National advertising is also sold to content partners. The content partners provide the Company with original entertainment content segments, typically 90 seconds in length, that are entertaining, informative or educational in nature in The *Noovie*® Show and they make commitments to buy a portion of the Company's advertising inventory at a specified CPM. The Company recognizes revenue for the content segments over time as the content segments air. Local advertising and advertising on the Spotlight Cinema Network is sold on a per-screen, per-week basis and to a lesser extent on a CPM basis. The Company recognizes local on-screen advertising revenue over the period in which the advertising airs as dictated by the underlying sales contracts. When sold separately, LEN advertising and lobby promotions are sold based on length and breadth of the promotion. The Company recognizes revenue derived from the lobby network and promotions over time when the advertising is displayed in theater lobbies. The Company sells data and digital advertising on a CPM basis as well. The Company recognizes revenue from branded entertainment websites and mobile applications over time as the data or digital impressions are served. This revenue for these products is presented within National and Local and regional advertising below.

Customer contracts may also include multiple advertising services to reach the moviegoer at multiple points during a theater experience. The Company considers each of these advertising services to represent distinct performance obligations of the contract and allocates a portion of the transaction price to each service based upon the standalone selling price of the service. When standalone selling prices are not readily observable, the Company allocates the transaction price based upon all information that is reasonably available and maximizes the use of observable inputs. Methods utilized include the adjusted market and expected cost-plus margin approaches.

The Company enters into barter transactions that exchange advertising program time for products and services used principally for selling and marketing activities, as well as for equity interests. The Company records barter transactions at the estimated fair value of the products, services and equity interests received if that can be reasonably estimated. If the fair value of the products and services received cannot be reasonably estimated, the Company utilizes the stand-alone selling price of the advertising services in the underlying contract. Revenue for advertising barter transactions is recognized when advertising is provided, and products and services received are charged to expense when used or recognized as investments as received, as applicable. Revenue from barter transactions for the years ended January 1, 2026, December 26, 2024 and December 28, 2023 was \$3.4 million, \$0.5 million and \$0.1 million, respectively. Expense recorded from barter transactions for the years ended January 1, 2026, December 26, 2024 and December 28, 2023 was \$0.5 million, \$0.3 million and \$0.1 million, respectively. This expense is included within "Selling and marketing costs" on the audited Consolidated Statements of Operations.

The Company recognizes revenue as the performance obligation for the advertising services is satisfied. Invoices are generated following the processing of each revenue contract and payment is due from the customer within 30 days of the invoice date. Customers select to pay the invoice in full at the start of a contract or through mutually agreed upon installments

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over the course of the contract. The Company records deferred revenue when cash payments are received, or invoices are issued, in advance of revenue being earned. Deferred revenue is classified as a current liability as it is expected to be earned within the next twelve months.

Disaggregation of Revenue

The Company disaggregates revenue into the categories of national; local and regional; beverage concessionaire and management fee reimbursement based upon a combination of multiple factors including the type of customer, the products included within a contract and the geographic scope and management fee reimbursement revenue related to NCM LLC. This method of disaggregation is in alignment with how revenue is reviewed by management and discussed with and historically disclosed to investors.

The following table summarizes revenue from contracts with customers for the years ended January 1, 2026, December 26, 2024 and December 28, 2023 (in millions):

	Years ended		
	January 1, 2026	December 26, 2024	December 28, 2023
National advertising revenue.....	\$ 194.5	\$ 188.0	\$ 114.8
Local and regional advertising revenue.....	34.6	39.1	30.4
ESA advertising revenue from beverage concessionaire agreements.....	14.1	13.7	9.9
Management fee reimbursement	—	—	10.1
Total revenue.....	\$ 243.2	\$ 240.8	\$ 165.2

Deferred Revenue and Unbilled Accounts Receivable

The Deferred Revenue balance increases upon issuance of invoices to customers and decreases upon delivery of services and the resulting recognition of revenue. Revenue recognized in the year ended January 1, 2026 that was included within the Deferred Revenue balance as of December 26, 2024 was \$22.7 million. Revenue recognized in the year ended December 26, 2024 that was included within the Deferred Revenue balance as of December 28, 2023 was \$9.8 million. Revenue recognized in the year ended December 28, 2023 that was included within the Deferred Revenue balance as of December 29, 2022 was \$8.6 million. Unbilled accounts receivable is classified as a current asset as it is expected to be billed within the next twelve months. As of January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, the Company had \$4.2 million and \$2.5 million, respectively, in unbilled accounts receivable, included within the accounts receivable balance.

Practical Expedients and Exemptions

The Company has two significant customer contracts with a term in excess of one year that are noncancellable as of January 1, 2026. The remaining performance obligation under these contracts is \$3.9 million as of January 1, 2026 and represents commitments for future advertising services for which work has not been performed and revenues are to be recorded in future periods. The Company expects to recognize all of its remaining performance obligation under this contract within the next two years. Agreements with a duration less than one year are not disclosed as the Company elected to use the practical expedient in ASC 606-10-50-14 for those contracts. In addition, the Company's contracts longer than one year that are cancellable are not included within this disclosure.

The Company expenses sales commissions when incurred as the amortization period would have been one year or less. These costs are recorded within "Selling and marketing costs" in the audited Consolidated Statements of Operations. In addition, the Company does not disclose the value of unsatisfied performance obligations for contracts with an original expected length of one year or less. The Company also does not adjust the transaction price for the effects of a significant financing component, as the Company expects, at contract inception, that the period between when the Company performs services and when the customer pays for the Company's service will be one year or less.

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Allowance for Credit Losses

The allowance for credit losses balance is determined separately for each pool of the Company's receivables with similar risk characteristics. The Company has determined that two pools, national customers and local/regional customers, is appropriate. The changes within the allowance for credit losses balances for the years ended January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024 were as follows (in millions):

	Years Ended			
	January 1, 2026		December 26, 2024	
	Allowance for National Customer Receivables	Allowance for Local/ Regional Customer Receivables	Allowance for National Customer Receivables	Allowance for Local/ Regional Customer Receivables
Balance at beginning of period	\$ 0.2	\$ 1.0	\$ 0.1	\$ 1.3
Provision for credit losses	0.1	0.5	0.5	0.1
Write-offs, net of recoveries	—	(0.7)	(0.4)	(0.4)
Balance at end of period	<u>\$ 0.3</u>	<u>\$ 0.8</u>	<u>\$ 0.2</u>	<u>\$ 1.0</u>

3. (LOSS) INCOME PER SHARE

Basic (loss) income per share is computed on the basis of the weighted average number of common shares outstanding. Diluted (loss) income per share is computed on the basis of the weighted average number of common shares outstanding plus the effect of potentially dilutive common stock options, restricted stock and exchangeable NCM LLC common units using the treasury stock method. The components of basic and diluted (loss) income per NCM, Inc. share are as follows:

	Years Ended		
	January 1, 2026	December 26, 2024	December 28, 2023
Net (loss) income attributable to NCM, Inc. (in millions)	<u>\$ (10.6)</u>	<u>\$ (22.3)</u>	<u>\$ 705.2</u>
Weighted average shares outstanding:			
Basic	94,182,400	95,865,998	47,882,944
Add: Dilutive effect of stock options, restricted stock, and exchangeable NCM LLC common membership units	—	—	691,639
Diluted	<u>94,182,400</u>	<u>95,865,998</u>	<u>48,574,583</u>
(Loss) income per NCM, Inc. share:			
Basic	\$ (0.11)	\$ (0.23)	\$ 14.73
Diluted	\$ (0.11)	\$ (0.23)	\$ 14.34

The effect of the 853 and 5,715 weighted average exchangeable NCM LLC common membership units held by the ESA Parties for the years ended January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, respectively, were excluded from the calculation of diluted weighted average shares and earnings per NCM, Inc. share as they were antidilutive. The weighted average exchangeable NCM LLC common membership units held by the ESA Parties for the year ended December 28, 2023 was 685,404 and are included in diluted weighted average shares. In addition, there were 5,440,529, 5,671,341 and 979,176, stock options and non-vested (restricted) shares for the years ended January 1, 2026, December 26, 2024 and December 28, 2023, respectively, excluded from the calculation as they were antidilutive. The Company's non-vested (restricted) shares do not meet the definition of a participating security as the dividends will not be paid if the shares do not vest.

On August 3, 2023, the Company effected a one-for-ten (1:10) reverse stock split of its common stock, par value \$0.01 per share. The reverse stock split, which was authorized by its Board of Directors, was approved by the Company's stockholders on August 2, 2023. The reverse stock split reduced the number of outstanding shares of the Company's common stock from 174,112,385 shares as of August 3, 2023, to 17,411,323 shares outstanding post-split.

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4. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

The following is a summary of property and equipment, at cost less accumulated depreciation (in millions):

	As of	
	January 1, 2026	December 26, 2024
Equipment, computer hardware and software.....	\$ 22.1	\$ 17.0
Leasehold improvements.....	2.0	1.4
Less: Accumulated depreciation.....	(8.4)	(4.8)
Subtotal.....	15.7	13.6
Construction in progress.....	3.7	2.8
Total property and equipment.....	<u>\$ 19.4</u>	<u>\$ 16.4</u>

5. BUSINESS COMBINATIONS

Acquisition of Spotlight Cinema Networks

On November 14, 2025, NCM LLC entered into the Membership Interest Purchase Agreement (“MIPA”) with Spotlight Cinema Networks (“Spotlight”), a niche cinema advertising company, whereby the Company acquired 100.0% of Spotlight in exchange for cash consideration as outlined below. The acquisition of Spotlight adds high-scale luxury screens and exhibitors that offer unique and engaging customer experiences to the Company’s platform, unlocking new advertising and preshow entertainment inventory.

The following table summarizes the consideration transferred to acquire Spotlight (*in millions*):

Fair Value of consideration transferred:

Cash.....	\$	7.1
Contingent consideration.....		1.3
Less: Expected working capital adjustments.....		(0.2)
Total.....	<u>\$</u>	<u>8.2</u>

The contingent consideration was placed within an escrow account as of the acquisition date and will be released over the next three years as the required contract renewals are obtained for the specified exhibitor agreements with upcoming expiration dates or as the exhibitors remain on the Spotlight Cinema Network for specified time periods. The fair value of the consideration and contingently returnable consideration are calculated utilizing the present value of payments by exhibitor probability weighted based on the respective estimated likelihood of renewal. The undiscounted maximum amount of contingent consideration is \$1.6 million. Each period, the Company will revalue the contingently returnable consideration to its fair value and record the related changes in the Consolidated Statement of Income. Changes in the contingently returnable consideration result from changes in assumptions regarding probabilities of successful achievement of exhibitor renewals, the estimated timing in which renewals are achieved and the discount rate used to estimate the fair value of the asset.

In connection with the acquisition of Spotlight Cinema Networks, the Company entered into transition agreements with various employees, transitional independent contractor agreements, and a transition services agreement with one of the sellers. The expense related to these agreements is recognized as the underlying services are performed. For the year ended January 1, 2026, \$0.2 million was included within ‘Network operating costs’ and \$0.1 million was included within ‘Selling and marketing costs’ as presented on the audited Consolidated Statement of Operations based upon the nature of the work being performed.

The following table summarizes the fair value of Spotlight and provisional fair values of the assets acquired and liabilities assumed as of the acquisition date (in millions). The provisional allocation of the purchase price was based upon a preliminary valuation, and the Company’s estimates and assumptions are subject to change as valuations are finalized within the measurement period, which cannot extend beyond one year from the acquisition date.

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Fair value of assets acquired:	
Cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash	\$ 1.2
Receivables, net (1)	2.9
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	0.1
Property and equipment, net	2.0
Fair value of intangible assets	5.4
Goodwill (2)	0.5
Total assets acquired.....	12.1
Fair value of liabilities assumed:	
Accrued expenses	0.4
Accounts payable.....	2.4
Deferred revenue	1.1
Total liabilities assumed.....	3.9
Purchase Price.....	\$ 8.2

(1)

Receivables acquired:	Fair value of trade receivables acquired:	Contract value of receivables acquired:	Amount of contractual cash flows not expected to be collected:
Trade Receivables..... \$	2.9 \$	2.9 \$	0.0

(2) The Goodwill balance recognized of \$0.5 million is primarily related to the value of the assembled workforce which does not qualify for separate recognition as an intangible asset.

The acquired business contributed revenues of \$2.2 million and earnings of \$0.5 million to the Company for the period subject to consolidation (November 15, 2025 to January 1, 2026).

Pro Forma Financial Information (Unaudited) - Spotlight Cinema Network

The following represents the pro forma Consolidated Statement of Operations as if the Spotlight acquisition had been included in the consolidated results of the Company for the entire period for the years ended January 1, 2026, December 26, 2024 and December 28, 2023.

	Years ended		
	January 1, 2026	December 26, 2024	December 28, 2023
Revenue.....	\$ 253.5	\$ 251.4	\$ 178.0
Net (Loss) Income.....	\$ (11.3)	\$ (22.5)	\$ 705.4

Reconsolidation of NCM LLC

Upon filing the Chapter 11 Case and in accordance with applicable GAAP, the Company concluded that NCM, Inc. no longer controlled NCM LLC for accounting purposes as of April 11, 2023 (the “Petition Date”), the date on which NCM LLC filed its Chapter 11 petition, as NCM LLC was under the control of the Bankruptcy Court, and therefore, NCM LLC was deconsolidated from the Company’s consolidated financial statements prospectively, resulting in a \$557.7 million gain recorded in “Gain on deconsolidation of affiliate” in the Consolidated Statement of Operations. The recorded gain was measured as the excess of the estimated fair value of the investment in NCM LLC retained over the Net Liabilities of NCM LLC as of April 11, 2023. The investment of NCM LLC was measured at cost minus any impairment in accordance with the measurement alternative outlined in ASC 321—*Investments—Equity Securities*. While NCM LLC remained in bankruptcy, NCM, Inc. accounted for the retained equity interest in NCM LLC at cost less impairment, if any, plus or minus changes resulting from observable price changes in orderly market transactions. Upon the deconsolidation of NCM LLC, the original cost of the investment was valued based upon NCM, Inc.’s ownership of the secured debt of NCM LLC and an estimation of the enterprise value of NCM LLC developed utilizing discounted cash flows and comparable company analysis as of the Petition Date. Significant assumptions utilized within these analyses included the weighted average cost of capital and NCM LLC’s forecasted cash flows.

On August 7, 2023, NCM LLC emerged from bankruptcy and NCM, Inc. contributed \$15.0 million in cash to NCM LLC in exchange for 2.8% of additional ownership of NCM LLC in accordance with the NCMI Capital Contribution and \$0.5 million to assist with payments to unsecured creditors in accordance with the settlement with the unsecured creditors. NCM, Inc. also issued 83,421,135 shares to the secured creditors in accordance with the NCMI 9019 Settlement and terms of the Plan with a fair value of \$245.3 million based on the closing stock price of \$2.94. Upon NCM LLC’s emergence from bankruptcy, NCM, Inc. retained 100.0% of NCM LLC, regained control of and reconsolidated NCM LLC.

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The Company accounted for the NCM LLC reconsolidation as a business combination under *ASC 805—Business Combinations* and accordingly, the purchase price was allocated to the assets acquired and liabilities assumed based on their estimated fair values as of the date of reconsolidation, the Effective Date. The determination of fair values required management to make significant estimates and assumptions.

The following table summarizes the fair value of NCM LLC and fair values of the assets acquired and liabilities assumed as of the reconsolidation date (in millions):

Fair value of assets acquired:		
Cash, cash equivalents and restricted cash	\$	49.6
Receivables, net (1).....		74.8
Prepaid expenses and other current assets		7.2
Property and equipment, net		14.8
Other investments		0.9
Debt issuance costs, net		2.4
Fair value of intangible assets.....		415.0
Other assets.....		10.0
Total assets acquired.....		574.7
Fair value of liabilities assumed:		
Amounts due to members, net		(15.3)
Accrued expenses		(0.7)
Accrued payroll and related expenses		(9.9)
Accounts payable.....		(37.3)
Deferred revenue.....		(11.1)
Other current liabilities.....		(1.5)
Long-term debt		(10.0)
Other liabilities		(5.5)
Total liabilities assumed.....		(91.3)
Fair value of NCM LLC	\$	483.4

(1) Includes a valuation adjustment recorded during the three months ended December 28, 2023 that decreased accounts receivable, net by \$0.2 million. There have been no adjustments to the purchase price and fair value estimates presented in the years ended January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, and these amounts are final.

The identifiable intangible assets of \$415.0 million are subject to amortization. The following table summarizes the major classes of intangible assets acquired and their respective weighted-average estimated useful lives (in millions).

	<u>Estimated Fair Value</u>	<u>Useful Life (years)</u>
Exhibitor service agreements.....	\$ 250.0	13.0
Network affiliates agreements	75.0	16.0
Customer relationships.....	75.0	6.0
Trademarks.....	15.0	8.0
Total intangible assets.....	\$ 415.0	

The estimated fair values of the ESAs, network affiliate agreements and trademarks were estimated using the income approach. The multi-period excess earnings method starts with a forecast of all of the expected future net cash flows associated with the asset. The forecasts are then adjusted to present value by applying an appropriate discount rate that reflects the risks associated with the company specific cash flow streams. Significant assumptions utilized within the income approach include the weighted average cost of capital and forecasted cash flows. The estimated fair values of the customer relationships were estimated using the cost approach. The cost approach included estimating the investment required to replace the contracts with customers, with significant assumptions including the replacement cost. The Company elected the practical expedients allowed in ASC 805-20-30-29a in estimating the fair value of the contract liabilities assumed.

Upon NCM LLC's emergence from the Chapter 11 Case, NCM, Inc. remeasured the value of the investment in NCM LLC to the estimated fair value calculated as NCM, Inc.'s percentage ownership of NCM LLC, due to NCM, Inc.'s ownership of the secured debt of NCM LLC and the NCMI Capital Contribution, multiplied by the fair value of NCM LLC as of the Effective Date of \$483.4 million. The value of the cost investment of NCM LLC immediately prior to the Effective Date was \$11.9 million based upon NCM, Inc.'s ownership of the secured debt of NCM LLC and an estimation of the enterprise value of NCM LLC developed utilizing discounted cash flows and comparable company analysis as of the Petition Date. The increase in the fair value resulted in a gain on remeasurement of the investment in NCM LLC of \$35.5 million during the year ended December 28, 2023.

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Upon reconsolidation, NCM, Inc. recorded the fair values of the assets acquired and liabilities assumed as of the reconsolidation date and the investment in NCM LLC was further adjusted to the full purchase price value of \$483.4 million. The difference between the purchase price of NCM LLC and the fair value of NCM, Inc.'s investment in NCM LLC as calculated above, the \$15.5 million of cash contributed by NCM, Inc. (consisting of \$0.5 million related to the General Unsecured Claim Pool and \$15.0 million under the NCMI Capital Contribution) and the shares issued to NCM LLC's secured lenders of \$245.3 million resulted in a gain of \$167.8 million upon the reconsolidation of NCM LLC during the year ended December 28, 2023. The Company recognized a gain due to the variance between the fair value of NCM LLC's assets and liabilities and NCM, Inc.'s depressed stock price on the Effective Date and the NCM, Inc. shares retained by the existing shareholders as part of the NCMI 9019 Settlement. Prior to the Effective Date, NCM, Inc.'s stock price was negatively impacted beginning with the COVID-19 pandemic followed by Cineworld's bankruptcy proceeding and NCM LLC's Chapter 11 Case, as well as by other socioeconomic factors.

The Company's Consolidated Statements of Operations include total net revenues and net loss attributable to NCM LLC of \$155.1 million and \$42.0 million, respectively, for the total of the consolidated periods of December 30, 2022 through April 11, 2023 and August 7, 2023 through December 28, 2023.

Pro Forma Financial Information (Unaudited) - NCM LLC Reconsolidation

The following table presents unaudited pro forma financial information as if the NCM LLC reconsolidation had occurred on December 31, 2021. The unaudited pro forma results reflect adjustments for depreciation of acquired property and equipment, amortization of acquired intangible assets and amortization of acquired debt issuance costs. The unaudited pro forma financial information is presented for informational purposes only and is not necessarily indicative of future operations or results had the NCM LLC reconsolidation been completed as of December 31, 2021 (in millions).

	Years ended	
	December 28, 2023	December 29, 2022
Revenue	\$ 259.8	\$ 249.2
Net (Loss) Income	\$ (200.5)	\$ 755.9

6. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

The Company's intangible assets consist of contractual rights to provide its services within the theaters under the ESAs and network affiliates agreements, customer relationships developed and maintained by the Company's sales force, trademarks held and used by the Company, noncompete agreements acquired and datasets acquired and used by the Company. The intangible assets are stated at their estimated fair values upon the reconsolidation of NCM LLC on August 7, 2023 as further described within Note 5—*Business Combinations*, net of accumulated amortization. Subsequently acquired intangible assets are recorded at cost, or in the cash of acquisitions, their estimated fair value. The Company records amortization using the straight-line method over the contractual life of the intangibles, corresponding to the term of the ESAs, the average renewable term of the contract with the network affiliates, industry standard lives for customer relationships and trademarks, the contract length for noncompete agreements and for the datasets, to the shorter of the use rights outlined in the contract under which they were acquired and the estimated rate of obsolescence of the datasets' usefulness. In accordance with ASC 360—*Property, Plant and Equipment*, the Company continuously monitors the performance of the underlying assets for potential triggering events suggesting an impairment review should be performed.

Upon entering into the 2025 AMC Agreement, the Company determined that there was a triggering event for the Company's intangible asset group, including the amount related to AMC, under ASC 360—*Impairment and Disposal of Long-Lived Assets* during the quarter ended June 26, 2025. Management estimated future undiscounted cash flows, including the impacts of the new fee structure under the 2025 AMC Agreement, which has been adjusted to be based on the attendance, the operating screens and the revenue generated by the Company through the advertising displayed in AMC's theaters beginning on July 1, 2025, and the increase in the useful life due to the five year extension. The estimated future cash flows calculated within the analysis were well in excess of the net book value of the Company's intangible assets and no impairment was recorded in the quarter ended June 26, 2025. Such analysis required management to make estimates and assumptions based on historical data and consideration of future market conditions. Actual results may differ from the estimates and assumptions used, or conditions may change, which could result in impairment charges in the future.

Common Unit Adjustments—In accordance with NCM LLC's Common Unit Adjustment Agreement, on an annual basis NCM LLC determines the amount of common membership units to be issued to or returned by AMC (through April 17, 2025) and Cinemark based on theater additions, new builds or dispositions during the previous year. In addition, NCM LLC's Common Unit Adjustment Agreement required that a Common Unit Adjustment occur for either AMC or Cinemark if its acquisition or disposition of theaters, in a single transaction or cumulatively since the most recent Common Unit Adjustment, results in an attendance increase or decrease in excess of two percent of the annual total attendance at the prior adjustment date. In the event that the adjustment was negative and either AMC or Cinemark did not have sufficient common membership units to return, the adjustment was satisfied in cash in an amount calculated pursuant to NCM LLC's Common Unit

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Adjustment Agreement. Upon the issuance of common membership units, the Company recorded an addition to the intangible asset related to AMC and Cinemark’s respective ESAs equal to the fair market value of NCM, Inc.’s publicly traded stock as of the date on which the common membership units were issued. NCM LLC common membership units are fully convertible into NCM, Inc.’s common stock. Subsequent to April 17, 2025 and in accordance with the AMC Termination Agreement, AMC is no longer a party to the Common Unit Adjustment Agreement and will no longer receive NCM LLC Common Units.

During the first quarter of 2025, in accordance with the Common Unit Adjustment Agreement, NCM LLC calculated a reduction of common membership units for AMC and Cinemark to be settled on April 2, 2025. Cinemark, who held no membership units, remitted cash to settle the negative common membership unit adjustment. In connection with the Common Unit Adjustment Agreement and the AMC Termination Agreement, AMC returned all of its units and was forgiven any remaining negative common unit adjustment. These transactions resulted in a reduction of the intangible asset of \$0.1 million during the year ended January 1, 2026. As of January 1, 2026, AMC and Cinemark held no ownership interest in NCM LLC.

During the second quarter of 2024, in accordance with the Common Unit Adjustment Agreement, NCM LLC issued 135,473 common membership units to AMC and Cinemark, with a net impact of \$0.7 million to the intangible asset. On April 16, 2024, the Company elected to satisfy a redemption request from Cinemark for all of their outstanding common membership units through a cash settlement as provided in NCM LLC’s Operating Agreement. This redemption reduced Cinemark’s ownership interest in NCM LLC to 0.0% as of April 16, 2024 while AMC’s ownership interest was de minimis.

Pursuant to and in connection with the Chapter 11 Case during the year ended December 28, 2023, NCM LLC did not issue common membership units to Cinemark for the rights to exclusive access to the theater screens and attendees added, net of dispositions, to NCM LLC’s network for the 2022 fiscal year and the 16,581,829 units issued to AMC were issued and cancelled on the Effective Date.

Integration Payments and Other Encumbered Theater Payments—If an existing on-screen advertising agreement with an alternative provider is in place with respect to any Encumbered Theaters, the applicable ESA party, AMC (through April 17, 2025) or Cinemark, may elect to receive common membership units related to those Encumbered Theaters in connection with the Common Unit Adjustment. If the ESA party makes this election, then they are required to make payments on a quarterly basis in arrears in accordance with certain run-out provisions pursuant to the ESAs (“integration payments”). Integration payments were calculated based upon the advertising cash flow that the Company would have generated if it had exclusive access to sell advertising in the theaters with pre-existing advertising agreements. The ESAs with AMC and Cinemark additionally entitle NCM LLC to payments related to their on-screen advertising commitments under their beverage concessionaire agreements for Encumbered Theaters. The encumbered beverage payments are also accounted for as a reduction to the intangible asset related to the ESAs. Given that the Carmike Cinemas, Inc. (“Carmike”) theaters acquired by AMC are subject to an existing on-screen advertising agreement with an alternative provider, AMC made integration payments and encumbered beverage payments to NCM LLC prior to the 2025 AMC Agreement. Upon the effectiveness of the 2025 AMC Agreement, and assuming the opt out provision is not exercised, AMC is no longer required to make integration payments. In addition, the \$10.6 million in accrued integration payments owed by AMC was forgiven in conjunction with the negotiations. The Company recorded the forgiveness of the receivable as an increase to the ESA Party intangible asset, during the quarter ended June 26, 2025, in accordance with the lease modification guidance outlined in ASC 842—Leases.

The following is a summary of the Company’s intangible asset’s activity (in millions) during January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024:

	As of December 26, 2024	Additions (1)	Disposals (2),(3)	Amortization	Integration and other encumbered theater payments (4)	As of January 1, 2026
Gross carrying amount	\$ 403.6	\$ 6.2	\$ (14.3)	\$ —	\$ (0.6)	\$ 394.9
Accumulated amortization.....	(52.8)	—	—	(33.3)	—	(86.1)
Total intangible assets, net	<u>\$ 350.8</u>	<u>\$ 6.2</u>	<u>\$ (14.3)</u>	<u>\$ (33.3)</u>	<u>\$ (0.6)</u>	<u>\$ 308.8</u>

	As of December 28, 2023	Additions (5)	Disposals	Amortization	Integration and other encumbered theater payments (4)	As of December 26, 2024
Gross carrying amount	\$ 409.3	\$ 0.7	\$ —	\$ —	\$ (6.4)	\$ 403.6
Accumulated amortization.....	(15.0)	—	—	(37.8)	—	(52.8)
Total intangible assets, net	<u>\$ 394.3</u>	<u>\$ 0.7</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ (37.8)</u>	<u>\$ (6.4)</u>	<u>\$ 350.8</u>

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- (1) The additions to the Company's intangible assets during 2025 are due to (1) \$5.4 million in intangible assets recognized in conjunction with the purchase of Spotlight in the fourth quarter of 2025 as discussed further within Note 5—Business Combinations, (2) \$0.4 million related to the acquisition of datasets and (3) \$0.4 million related to costs incurred to extend the useful life of the Company's intangible asset related to the ESA Parties by 5 years through the 2025 AMC Agreement.
- (2) During the first quarter of 2025, in accordance with the Common Unit Adjustment Agreement, NCM LLC calculated a reduction of common membership units for AMC and Cinemark to be settled on April 2, 2025. Cinemark, who held no membership units, remitted cash to settle the negative common membership unit adjustment. In connection with the Common Unit Adjustment Agreement and the AMC Termination Agreement, AMC returned all of its units and was forgiven any remaining negative common unit adjustment. These transactions resulted in a reduction of the intangible asset of \$0.1 million during the year ended January 1, 2026. As of January 1, 2026, AMC and Cinemark held no ownership interest in NCM LLC.
- (3) During the second quarter of 2025, the Company and AMC entered into the 2025 AMC Agreement and the AMC Termination Agreement. As a result of the agreements, NCM LLC released \$24.8 million of the 'Payable under the TRA' and reversed the receivables from AMC totaling \$10.6 million within 'Amounts due from ESA Parties' on the Company's audited Consolidated Balance Sheet. The net impact of these reversals was recorded as a \$14.2 million reduction to the 'Intangible Assets, net of accumulated amortization' as AMC's forfeiture of this net payable was considered akin to a lease incentive. Refer to Note 9—Related Party Transactions for additional detail surrounding the agreements.
- (4) Carmike had pre-existing advertising agreements for some of the theaters it owned prior to their acquisitions by AMC. As a result, AMC made integration and other encumbered theater payments over the remaining term of those agreements until the AMC Termination Agreement became effective on July 1, 2025. For the year ended January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, NCM LLC recorded a reduction to net intangible assets of \$0.6 million and \$6.4 million, respectively, related to integration and other encumbered theater payments due from AMC. During the year ended January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, AMC and Cinemark paid a total of \$0.8 million and \$1.2 million, respectively, related to integration and other encumbered theater payments.
- (5) During the quarter ended June 27, 2024, in accordance with the Common Unit Adjustment Agreement, NCM LLC issued 135,473 common membership units to AMC and Cinemark, with a net impact of \$0.7 million to the intangible asset.

As of January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, the Company's intangible assets related to the ESA Parties, net of accumulated amortization, was \$186.8 million and \$212.3 million, respectively, with weighted average remaining lives of 15.1 years and 11.6 years, respectively.

As of January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, the Company's intangible assets related to the network affiliates, net of accumulated amortization, was \$63.8 million and \$68.5 million, respectively, with weighted average remaining lives of 13.6 years and 14.6 years, respectively.

As of January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, the Company's intangible assets related to the customer relationships, net of accumulated amortization, was \$45.1 million and \$57.6 million, respectively, with weighted average remaining lives of 3.6 years and 4.6 years, respectively.

As of January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, the Company's intangible assets related to trademark, net of accumulated amortization, was \$10.5 million and \$12.4 million, respectively, with weighted average remaining lives of 5.6 years and 6.6 years, respectively.

As of January 1, 2026, the Company's intangible assets related to the datasets, net of accumulated amortization, was \$0.3 million, respectively, with weighted average remaining lives of 1.8 years. This asset was obtained during the quarter ended June 26, 2025.

As of January 1, 2026, the Company's intangible assets related to the Spotlight exhibitors, net of accumulated amortization, was \$4.7 million, respectively, with weighted average remaining lives of 11.9 years. This asset was obtained during the quarter ended January 1, 2026.

As of January 1, 2026, the Company's intangible assets related to noncompetition agreements, net of accumulated amortization, was \$0.4 million, respectively, with weighted average remaining lives of 4.9 years. This asset was obtained during the quarter ended January 1, 2026.

As of January 1, 2026, the Company's intangible assets related to the trade name - Spotlight, net of accumulated amortization, was \$0.3 million, respectively, with weighted average remaining lives of 7.9 years. This asset was obtained during the quarter ended January 1, 2026.

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The estimated aggregate amortization expense for each of the five succeeding years is as follows (in millions):

Year	Amortization	
2026.....	\$	31.9
2027.....	\$	31.9
2028.....	\$	31.8
2029.....	\$	26.7
2030.....	\$	19.2
Thereafter.....	\$	167.3

7. INCOME TAXES

The Company is subject to taxation in the U.S. and various states. The Company's tax returns for the calendar years 2022 through 2024 remain open to examination by the IRS in their entirety. With respect to state taxing jurisdictions, the Company's tax returns for calendar years ended 2021 through 2024, in general are eligible for examination by various state revenue services.

Recently enacted tax legislation—On July 4, 2025, the U.S. enacted H.R. 1 "A bill to provide for reconciliation pursuant to Title II of H. Con. Res. 14", commonly referred to as the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA). The Company continues to maintain a full valuation allowance on its net deferred tax assets and this new legislation did not have a material impact on the Company.

Tax Receivable Agreement—On the IPO date, NCM, Inc. and the ESA Parties entered into a TRA. Under the terms of this agreement, NCM, Inc. will make cash payments to the ESA Parties in amounts equal to 90% of NCM, Inc.'s actual tax benefit realized from the tax amortization of the intangible assets described below. For purposes of the TRA, cash savings in income and franchise tax will be computed by comparing NCM, Inc.'s actual income and franchise tax liability to the amount of such taxes that NCM, Inc. would have been required to pay had there been no increase in NCM, Inc.'s proportionate share of tax basis in NCM LLC's tangible and intangible assets and had the TRA not been entered into. The TRA applies to NCM, Inc.'s taxable years up to and including the 30th anniversary date of the offering. For the 2023 tax year, the Company paid the ESA Parties \$0.0 million in the year ended December 26, 2024. For the 2024 tax year, the Company paid \$1.3 million in 2025 and expects to pay an additional \$0.8 million in 2026 to Cinemark. For the 2025 tax year, the Company expects to pay \$2.1 million in 2026 to Cinemark.

NCM, Inc. recorded a long-term payable to the ESA Parties related to the TRA. The Company recorded a decrease of \$30.2 million and an increase of \$4.2 million to the "Payable to ESA Parties under the tax receivable agreement" during the years ended January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, respectively. The decrease in the payable under the TRA during the year ended January 1, 2026 was driven primarily by: 1) a decrease of \$3.7 million due to differences between the Company's actual and projected performance and future projected performance as recorded within '(Gain) loss on re-measurement of the payable under the tax receivable agreement' on the audited Consolidated Statement of Operations and 2) in accordance with the AMC Termination Agreement, AMC waived all rights and interests as to the TRA and the Company reduced the 'Payable under the TRA' on the audited Consolidated Balance Sheets for the amounts recorded associated with AMC of \$24.8 million. The cancellation of this payable was considered akin to a lease incentive related to the modification of the short-term operating lease of AMC's screens under ASC 842—*Leases* and it was recorded against the intangible asset for the ESA Parties upon the effectiveness of the AMC Termination Agreement within the year ended January 1, 2026. The adjustment will reduce amortization expense of the intangible over the remainder of its useful life, which is considered akin to lease expense. The increase in the payable under the TRA during the year ended December 26, 2024 was driven primarily by a change in calculation methodology to also include forecasted book income for the next two years in addition to the current year, due to management's ability to more accurately forecast following the conclusion of the COVID-19 pandemic. The increase in the year ended December 28, 2023 was primarily due to the increase in NCM, Inc.'s ownership percentage of NCM LLC. The ownership related changes to the "Payable to ESA Parties under the tax receivable agreement" were recorded within "Additional paid in capital" on the Consolidated Balance Sheet and the non-ownership related changes were recorded within "Non-operating income" within the Consolidated Statements of Operations. For the year ended December 28, 2023, following the Regal Termination Agreement whereby Regal waived all rights and interests as to the TRA, the Company reduced the "Payable under the TRA" on the Consolidated Balance Sheets for the amounts expected to be owed to Regal. This decrease was ultimately offset by the increase in the 'Payable under the TRA' on the Consolidated Balance Sheets due to the additional basis created upon the revaluation and reconsolidation of NCM LLC on the Effective Date.

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Provision for Income Taxes—The Company's total income taxes are as follows (in millions).

	Years Ended		
	January 1, 2026	December 26, 2024	December 28, 2023
Current:			
Federal	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —
State (1)	—	0.2	—
Total current income tax expense	—	0.2	—
Deferred:			
Federal	—	—	—
State	—	—	—
Total deferred income tax expense	—	—	—
Total income tax provision on Consolidated Statements of Operation ..	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 0.2</u>	<u>\$ —</u>

(1) The majority of the current income tax expense relates to taxes in Colorado, California and New Jersey for the year ended December 26, 2024.

A reconciliation of the provision for income taxes as reported and the amount computed by multiplying income before taxes, less noncontrolling interest, by the U.S. federal statutory rate of 21.0% as of January 1, 2026, December 26, 2024 and December 28, 2023 was (in millions):

	Year Ended	
	January 1, 2026	
Provision calculated at federal statutory income tax rate:		
Income before income taxes	\$ (2.2)	
Less: Noncontrolling interests	—	
Income attributable to NCM, Inc.	(2.2)	21.0%
Domestic Federal		
Nontaxable and nondeductible items		
Executive compensation limitation	1.7	(15.8)%
Deemed payment on write-off of affiliate assets (1)	28.6	(270.3)%
Excess tax deficiency on share-based compensation pay	(0.4)	4.1%
Other	0.1	(1.3)%
Change in the valuation allowance (2)	(26.2)	247.7%
Projected executive compensation limitations	(1.2)	10.9%
Domestic state and local income taxes, net of federal effect	(0.4)	3.7%
Total income tax provision	<u>\$ 0.0</u>	<u>0.0%</u>

(1) This relates to the change in the provision for income taxes following the 2025 AMC Agreement, driven by the treatment of the write-off of AMC related tax assets as in substance cash payments.

(2) Refer to the discussion of changes to the valuation allowance during the year ended January 1, 2026 within the Deferred Tax Assets table below.

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	Year Ended	
	December 26, 2024	
Provision calculated at federal statutory income tax rate:		
Income before income taxes.....	\$ (4.9)	
Less: Noncontrolling interests.....	—	
Income attributable to NCM, Inc.	(4.9)	(21.0)%
Domestic Federal		
Nontaxable and nondeductible items		
Executive compensation limitation.....	1.4	5.9%
Excess tax deficiency on share-based compensation pay.....	0.3	1.4%
Dividend equivalents paid on share-based compensation.....	(0.1)	(0.3)%
Other.....	0.1	0.4%
Change in the valuation allowance (1).....	1.9	8.1%
Projected executive compensation limitations.....	1.4	5.9%
Domestic state and local income taxes, net of federal effect.....	0.1	0.4%
Total income tax provision.....	\$ 0.2	0.8%

(1) Refer to the discussion of changes to the valuation allowance during the year ended December 26, 2024 within the Deferred Tax Assets table below.

	Year Ended	
	December 28, 2023	
Provision calculated at federal statutory income tax rate:		
Income before income taxes.....	\$ 146.5	
Less: Noncontrolling interests.....	1.8	
Income attributable to NCM, Inc.....	148.3	
Current year change to enacted federal and state rate.....	(0.2)	
State and local income taxes, net of federal benefit.....	25.7	
Share-based compensation.....	1.4	
Cancellation of debt income attributable to NCM LLC.....	16.5	
Deconsolidation effects of NCM LLC.....	(37.2)	
Effects of NCM LLC Bankruptcy.....	(4.8)	
Tax attribute reduction (1).....	63.1	
Change in valuation allowance (1).....	(208.4)	
Executive compensation.....	0.9	
Other.....	(5.3)	
Total income tax provision.....	\$ —	

(1) Refer to the discussion of changes to the valuation allowance during the year ended December 28, 2023 within the Deferred Tax Assets table below.

Deferred Tax Assets—Significant components of the Company’s deferred tax assets consisted of the following (in millions):

	Years Ended	
	January 1, 2026	December 26, 2024
Deferred tax assets:		
Investment in consolidated subsidiary NCM LLC (1).....	\$ 51.4	\$ 136.7
Share-based compensation.....	1.7	0.8
Net operating losses (1).....	61.7	27.2
Accrued bonus.....	0.2	—
Business interest expense limitation.....	4.1	4.3
Capital loss carryover (1).....	41.6	—
Other.....	0.1	0.1
Total gross deferred tax assets.....	160.8	169.1
Valuation allowance (2).....	(160.8)	(169.1)
Total deferred tax assets, net of valuation allowance.....	\$ —	\$ —

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- (1) The Company recognized a deferred tax asset in the amount of \$51.4 million and \$136.7 million as of January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, respectively, associated with the basis difference in our investment in NCM LLC. The difference is driven primarily by the large ordinary and capital loss resulting from write-off of certain of NCM LLC tax assets associated with the 2025 AMC Agreement. These losses resulted in the increases within the net-operating losses deferred tax asset and the capital loss carryover deferred tax asset as a result.
- (2) The Company evaluated its deferred tax assets as of January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024 and considered both positive and negative evidence in determining whether it is more likely than not that all or some portion of its deferred tax assets will be realized. The Company generated a three-year cumulative pre-tax book loss during 2021 driven by the impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Company's operations in 2021 and 2020, the effect of which continued into 2022 and 2023. Given the associated weight assigned to this item as negative evidence within the Company's analysis, the Company determined it is more-likely-than-not that the Company will not be able to realize certain of the Company's deferred tax assets. Once the Company returns to a more normal operating level and emerges from a three-year cumulative pre-tax book loss position, part or all the valuation allowance is expected to reverse.

Income taxes paid—A reconciliation of the income taxes paid for the year ended January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024 was (in dollars):

	Year Ended	
	January 1, 2026	December 26, 2024
Income taxes paid		
US Federal.....	\$ —	\$ —
US state and local		
Ohio Municipalities (1).....	—	62,356
Tennessee (1).....	13,000	5,359
New Hampshire (1).....	(2,427)	18,506
Texas (1).....	1,543	(8,552)
Other (1).....	900	688
Foreign.....	—	—
Total income tax paid.....	<u>\$ 13,016</u>	<u>\$ 78,357</u>

(1) These payments relate to income taxes at NCM, LLC.

Carryforwards—As of January 1, 2026, the Company had gross federal net operating loss carryforwards of approximately \$235.2 million of which \$235.0 million will be carried forward indefinitely. As of January 1, 2026, the Company had gross state net operating loss carryforwards of approximately \$216.2 million, of which \$157.5 million will expire between 2025 and 2047 and \$58.7 million will be carried forward indefinitely. As of January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, the Company had gross federal research and experimentation tax credit carryforwards of approximately \$1.5 million, which expire at various dates between 2033 and 2039.

8. EQUITY

As of January 1, 2026, the Company has authorized capital stock of 260,000,000 shares of common stock, par value of \$0.01 per share, and 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value of \$0.01 per share. There were 93,353,604 shares of common stock issued and outstanding and 50 shares of preferred stock issued and outstanding as of January 1, 2026.

The holders of NCM, Inc. common stock are entitled to one vote per share on all matters submitted for action by the NCM, Inc. stockholders. Holders of common stock are entitled to share equally, share for share, in declared dividends.

The authorized but unissued shares of common stock and preferred stock are available for future issuance without stockholder approval. These additional shares may be used for a variety of corporate purposes, including share-based compensation, future public offerings to raise additional capital, corporate acquisitions and exchange on a one-for-one basis under the ESA Parties' right to convert their NCM LLC membership units into Company common stock.

Prior to the deconsolidation of NCM LLC on April 11, 2023, in conformity with accounting guidance of the SEC concerning monetary consideration paid to promoters, such as the ESA Parties, in exchange for property conveyed by the promoters, the excess over predecessor cost was treated as a special distribution. Because the ESA Parties had no cost basis in the ESAs, nearly all payments to the ESA Parties with the proceeds of the IPO and related debt, have been accounted for as distributions. The distributions by NCM LLC to the ESA Parties made at the date of the IPO resulted in a consolidated stockholders' deficit. As a noncontrolling interest cannot be shown as an asset, the ESA Parties' interest in NCM LLC's members equity was included in distributions in excess of paid in capital in the Consolidated Balance Sheets.

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On April 11, 2023, the historical Equity balances of NCM LLC were deconsolidated from the Consolidated Financial Statements. On August 7, 2023, the Company accounted for the NCM LLC reconsolidation as a business combination under *ASC 805—Business Combinations* and accordingly, the purchase price was allocated to the assets acquired and liabilities assumed based on their estimated fair values as of the date of reconsolidation, the Effective Date, with no allocation to any equity balances. The reconsolidation reduced NCM LLC's equity balances to \$0 and removed the impact of the IPO discussed above. For further information regarding the deconsolidation and reconsolidation of NCM LLC, refer to Note 5 - *Business Combinations*.

9. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

ESA Party and Managing Member Transactions—In connection with NCM, Inc.'s IPO, the Company entered into several agreements to define and regulate the relationships among NCM LLC, NCM, Inc. and AMC, Cinemark and Regal which are outlined below.

AMC has owned less than 5% of NCM LLC, on an as converted basis, since July 2018 and is no longer a related party. On April 17, 2025, the Company and AMC, entered into the Second Amended and Restated Exhibitor Services Agreement (the "2025 AMC Agreement") and a separate termination agreement (the "AMC Termination Agreement") by and among NCM LLC, NCM, Inc. and AMC. The 2025 AMC Agreement extended the term of the ESA by five years and more closely aligns the program distributed by NCM LLC in AMC theaters to the predominant pre-feature program show structure distributed in the rest of NCM LLC's advertising network and adjusted the consideration paid by NCM LLC. The AMC Termination Agreement waived AMC's rights under certain agreements entered into at the time of the IPO. The agreements were accounted for in accordance with the lease modification guidance within *ASC 842—Leases*, as the amended ESA contains a short-term operating lease of AMC's screens. The agreements were considered combined as they were entered into contemporaneously by the same parties. As a result of the agreements, in the year ended January 1, 2026, NCM LLC released \$24.8 million of the 'Payable under the TRA' and reversed the receivable of \$10.6 million from AMC, related to unpaid integration payments, and released the receivable under the Common Unit Adjustment Agreement within 'Amounts due from ESA Parties' on the Company's audited Consolidated Balance Sheet. NCM will no longer have an obligation to make TRA payments to AMC, provide common units as a part of the Common Unit Adjustment Agreement or distribute NCM LLC's available cash to AMC, and the Company received the benefits of the revised ESA, including enhancements related to the pre-feature show structure and NCM's exclusive right to advertise in AMC's theaters. The net impact of these reversals was recorded to the 'Intangible Assets, net of accumulated amortization' as AMC's forfeiture of this net payable was considered akin to a lease incentive. The reduction in the intangible asset for the ESAs will result in reduced amortization expense, as it is considered akin to lease expense, for the remainder of the contract term. Refer to Note 6—*Intangible Assets*, Note 7—*Income Taxes*, and Note 13—*Commitments and Contingencies* for additional detail surrounding these agreements. When AMC remained a party to the ESA, Common Unit Adjustment Agreement and certain other original agreements and was a member under the terms of the NCM LLC Operating Agreement, subject to fulfilling the requirements of Section 3.1 of the NCM LLC Operating Agreement. AMC participated in the annual Common Unit Adjustment and received available cash distributions or allocation of earnings and losses in NCM LLC (as long as its ownership in NCM LLC was greater than zero) and theater access fees. Further, AMC will continue to pay beverage revenue, among other things, to NCM LLC. During the first quarter of 2025, in accordance with the Common Unit Adjustment Agreement, NCM LLC calculated a reduction of common membership units for AMC to be settled on April 2, 2025. In connection with the Common Unit Adjustment Agreement and the AMC Termination Agreement, AMC returned all of its units and was forgiven any remaining negative common unit adjustment. As of January 1, 2026, AMC's ownership was 0.0% of NCM LLC and 0.0% NCM, Inc.

Cinemark has owned less than 5% of NCM LLC, on an as converted basis, since NCM LLC emerged from bankruptcy on August 7, 2023 and is no longer a related party. Cinemark remains a party to the ESA, Common Unit Adjustment Agreement and certain other original agreements and is a member under the terms of the NCM LLC Operating Agreement, subject to fulfilling the requirements of Section 3.1 of the NCM LLC Operating Agreement. Cinemark will continue to participate in the annual Common Unit Adjustment and receive available cash distributions or allocation of earnings and losses in NCM LLC (as long as its ownership in NCM LLC is greater than zero) and theater access fees. Further, Cinemark will continue to pay beverage revenue, among other things, to NCM LLC. Cinemark's ownership percentage does not impact future integration payments and other encumbered theater payments owed to NCM LLC by Cinemark. On April 1, 2024, in accordance with the Common Unit Adjustment Agreement, NCM LLC issued 132,096 common membership units to Cinemark. On April 16, 2024, the Company elected to satisfy a redemption request from Cinemark for all of their outstanding common membership units through a cash settlement as provided in NCM LLC's Operating Agreement. This redemption reduced Cinemark's ownership interest in NCM LLC to 0.0% as of April 16, 2024. During the first quarter of 2025, in accordance with the Common Unit Adjustment Agreement, NCM LLC calculated a reduction of common membership units for Cinemark to be settled on April 2, 2025. Cinemark, who held no membership units, remitted cash to settle the negative common membership unit adjustment. As of January 1, 2026, Cinemark's ownership was 4.7% of NCM, Inc. and 0.0% of NCM LLC.

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On June 3, 2023, NCM LLC entered into the Regal Advertising Agreement and Regal Termination Agreement which became effective on July 14, 2023. Pursuant to the Regal Termination Agreement, Regal rejected and terminated its ESA with NCM LLC. Additionally Regal and Regal's affiliates' waived all rights and interests as to the TRA, the Common Unit Adjustment Agreement, the Software License Agreement, the Director Designation Agreement, the Registration Rights Agreement and all the other joint venture agreements described in the NCM LLC Operating Agreement and the Company and NCM LLC, and Regal and Regal's affiliates waived and released claims against the other party. Regal also agreed to support NCM LLC's Plan and surrendered all 4,068,381 shares in the Company, totaling \$13.0 million, upon the effective date of the Plan. In connection with the Regal Advertising Agreement, NCM LLC and Regal also agreed to dismiss with prejudice the ongoing litigation between the parties related to NCM LLC's request to enforce certain provisions of the ESA, including the exclusivity provision. Subsequent to July 14, 2023, Regal is no longer an ESA Party or related party to NCM, Inc. or NCM LLC.

The material agreements with the ESA Parties are as follows:

- **ESAs.** Under the ESAs, NCM LLC is the exclusive provider within the United States of advertising services in the ESA Parties' theaters (subject to pre-existing contractual obligations and other limited exceptions for the benefit of the ESA Parties). The advertising services include the use of the DCN equipment required to deliver the on-screen advertising and other content included in The *Noovie*® Show, use of the LEN and rights to sell and display certain lobby promotions. Further, 30 to 60 seconds of advertising included in The *Noovie* Show is sold to the ESA Parties to satisfy the ESA Parties' on-screen advertising commitments under their beverage concessionaire agreements. In consideration for access to the ESA Parties' theaters, theater patrons, the network equipment required to display on-screen and LEN video advertising and the use of theaters for lobby promotions, the ESA Parties receive a monthly theater access fee. In conjunction with the 2019 ESA Amendments, NCM LLC also pays Cinemark, and previously Regal, incremental monthly theater access fees and, subject to NCM LLC's use of specified inventory, a revenue share in consideration for NCM LLC's access to certain on-screen advertising inventory after the advertised showtime of a feature film beginning November 1, 2019 and the underlying term of the ESAs were extended until 2041. The ESAs and 2019 ESA Amendments are considered leases with related parties under ASC 842. As described above, the Regal ESA was rejected by Regal in connection with Regal's Chapter 11 case and terminated by the Regal Termination Agreement.
- **Common Unit Adjustment Agreement.** The Common Unit Adjustment Agreement provides a mechanism for increasing or decreasing the membership units held by Cinemark based on the acquisition or construction of new theaters or sale of theaters that are operated by Cinemark and included in NCM LLC's network.
- **Common Unit Membership Redemption.** The NCM LLC Operating Agreement provides a redemption right of the Cinemark to exchange common membership units of NCM LLC for shares of the Company's common stock on a one-for-one basis, or at the Company's option, a cash payment based on the three-day variable weighted average closing price of NCM, Inc.'s common stock prior to the redemption date.
- **Tax Receivable Agreement.** The TRA provides for the effective payment by NCM, Inc. to Cinemark of 90% of the amount of cash savings, if any, in U.S. federal, state and local income tax or franchise tax that is actually realized as a result of certain increases in NCM, Inc.'s proportionate share of tax basis in NCM LLC's tangible and intangible assets resulting from the IPO and related transactions.
- **Software License Agreement.** At the date of the Company's IPO, NCM LLC was granted a perpetual, royalty-free license from Cinemark to use certain proprietary software that existed at the time for the delivery of digital advertising and other content through the DCN to screens in the U.S. NCM LLC has made improvements to this software since the IPO date and NCM LLC owns those improvements, except for improvements that were developed jointly by NCM LLC and the Cinemark, if any.

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Following is a summary of the related party transactions between the Company and its related parties (in millions):

Included in the Consolidated Statements of Operations:	Years Ended		
	January 1, 2026	December 26, 2024	December 28, 2023
<u>Revenue:</u>	(1)	(1)	(1)
Beverage concessionaire revenue (included in advertising revenue) (2).....	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 4.1
Management fee reimbursement (3).....	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 10.1
Looking Glass Media revenue (4).....	\$ 0.1	\$ —	\$ —
<u>Operating expenses:</u>			
Theater exhibition fees (5).....	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 16.5

(1) For the years ended January 1, 2026, December 26, 2024 and December 28, 2023, there was no related party activity subsequent to the deconsolidation of NCM LLC on April 11, 2023 for AMC, Cinemark and Regal.

(2) For the year ended December 28, 2023, Regal and Cinemark each purchased 60 seconds of on-screen advertising time (all ESA Parties have a right to purchase up to 90 seconds) from NCM LLC to satisfy their obligations under their beverage concessionaire agreements at a 30 second equivalent CPM rate specified by the ESA.

(3) Comprised of payments from NCM LLC to NCM, Inc. for managing NCM LLC during the period where NCM LLC was deconsolidated of April 11, 2023 through August 7, 2023.

(4) As part of the acquisition of Spotlight, the Company acquired a 25.0% ownership of Looking Glass Media, a local sales organization specializing in cinema advertising. Looking Glass Media sells local advertising on Spotlight's behalf. This revenue represents the portion of the proceeds collected by Looking Glass Media remitted to Spotlight for delivering the respective ads on the Spotlight Cinema Network. As of January 1, 2026, NCM had an accounts receivable balance with Looking Glass Media of \$0.3 million included within "Receivables, net of allowance" on the audited Consolidated Balance Sheets.

(5) Comprised of payments per theater attendee, payments per digital screen with respect to the ESA Party theaters included in the Company's network, payments for access to higher quality digital cinema equipment and payments to Cinemark and Regal for their portion of the Platinum Spot revenue for the utilization of the theaters post-showtime in accordance with the 2019 ESA Amendments.

Pursuant to the terms of the NCM LLC Operating Agreement in place since the completion of the IPO, NCM LLC is required to make mandatory distributions on a proportionate basis to its members of available cash, as defined in the NCM LLC Operating Agreement, on a quarterly basis in arrears, contingent upon the Company's compliance with the covenants outlined within the 2025 Revolving Credit Facility. The portion of positive available cash due to ESA Parties is accrued within the "Amounts due to ESA Parties, net" on the audited Consolidated Balance Sheets. The portion of positive available cash due to NCM, Inc. is eliminated upon consolidation. As AMC, Cinemark and Regal are no longer related parties, there are no related party balances to reflect as of January 1, 2026. The available cash owed from NCM LLC as of January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024 were as follows (in millions):

	Years Ended	
	January 1, 2026	December 26, 2024
NCM, Inc.	\$ 52.7	\$ 46.3
Total	<u>\$ 52.7</u>	<u>\$ 46.3</u>

The Company generated available cash by NCM LLC to NCM, Inc. for the quarter ended January 1, 2026 of \$30.8 million (\$30.8 million for NCM, Inc.). The Company generated negative available cash of \$13.4 million and \$3.7 million in the first and second quarter of 2025, respectively, and positive available cash of \$7.1 million in the third quarter of 2025. The cumulative negative available cash balance as of January 1, 2026 is \$238.6 million (including \$182.3 million for NCM, Inc. and \$56.3 million for Cinemark). In accordance with the terms of the NCM LLC Operating Agreement, these amounts can only be offset against positive available cash within the second quarter of future years. NCM, Inc. has the option to defer payment of any available cash distributions payable to NCM, Inc. at its discretion.

AC JV, LLC Transactions—The Company accounts for its investment in AC JV, LLC under the equity method of accounting in accordance with ASC 323-30, Investments—Equity Method and Joint Ventures ("ASC 323-30") because AC JV, LLC is a limited liability company with the characteristics of a limited partnership and ASC 323-30 requires the use of equity method accounting unless the Company's interest is so minor that it would have virtually no influence over partnership operating and financial policies. Although NCM LLC does not have a representative on AC JV, LLC's Board of Directors or any voting, consent or blocking rights with respect to the governance or operations of AC JV, LLC, the

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Company concluded that its interest was more than minor under the accounting guidance. NCM LLC’s investment in AC JV, LLC was \$0.8 million and \$0.8 million as of January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, respectively. NCM LLC received cash distributions from AC JV, LLC of \$0.6 million, \$1.2 million and \$0.6 million, during the years ended January 1, 2026, December 26, 2024 and December 28, 2023, respectively. NCM LLC recorded equity in earnings for AC JV, LLC of \$0.6 million, \$1.2 million and \$0.6 million during the years ended January 1, 2026, December 26, 2024 and December 28, 2023, respectively, which are included in “Other non-operating income, net” in the audited Consolidated Statements of Operations.

10. BORROWINGS

The following table summarizes NCM LLC’s total outstanding debt as of January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024 and the significant terms of its borrowing arrangements:

Borrowings (\$ in millions)	Outstanding Balance as of		Maturity Date	Interest Rate
	January 1, 2026	December 26, 2024		
2025 Credit Facility.....	\$ 12.0	\$ —	January 24, 2028	(1)
Revolving Credit Facility 2023.....	—	10.0	August 7, 2026	(1)
Total borrowings.....	12.0	—		
Total borrowings, net.....	12.0	—		
Carrying value of long-term debt.....	\$ 12.0	\$ —		

(1) The interest rates on the revolving credit facilities are described below.

Debt Agreement—On January 24, 2025, NCM LLC entered into a Loan and Security Agreement with U.S. Bank National Association, as lender. The agreement provides for a \$45.0 million senior secured revolving credit facility that matures on January 24, 2028. During the year ended January 1, 2026 NCM LLC has drawn \$22.0 million from the facility and repaid \$10.0 million of the facility resulting in an outstanding balance under the 2025 Credit Facility of \$12.0 million as of January 1, 2026. Upon execution of the 2025 Credit Facility, NCM LLC recorded \$0.9 million of debt issuance costs. As of January 1, 2026, NCM LLC’s maximum availability under the \$45.0 million 2025 Credit Facility was \$32.4 million, net of letters of credit of \$0.6 million.

Borrowings under the 2025 Credit Facility may be used for, among other things, working capital and other general corporate purposes of the Company and bear interest at a floating rate equal to term SOFR (subject to a floor of zero) plus an applicable margin of 2.00%, which is subject to increase by an additional 2.00% upon the occurrence of an event of default. A commitment fee of 0.25% is payable quarterly in arrears based on the average daily amount of the undrawn portion of the commitments under the 2025 Credit Facility for the preceding quarter. The 2025 Credit Facility has a \$5.0 million sublimit for the issuance of letters of credit. Fees are payable on outstanding letters of credit at a per annum rate equal to 2.00%, plus certain customary fees payable in connection with the issuance, amendment, renewal and extension of letters of credit and the processing of drawings thereunder.

Certain of NCM LLC’s future subsidiaries (collectively, the “Guarantors”) are required to guarantee the repayment of NCM LLC’s obligations under the 2025 Credit Facility. The obligations of NCM LLC and any such Guarantors with respect to the 2025 Credit Facility are and will be secured by a pledge of substantially all assets of NCM LLC and each of the Guarantors, including, without limitation, accounts receivables, deposit accounts, intellectual property, investment property, inventory, equipment and equity interests in their respective subsidiaries.

The 2025 Credit Facility contains affirmative and negative covenants customary for financings of this type, with which NCM LLC was in compliance at January 1, 2026, including limitations on NCM LLC’s and its subsidiaries ability to incur additional debt, grant or permit additional liens, make investments and acquisitions, merge or consolidate with others, dispose of assets, pay dividends and distributions, make equity repurchases, pay subordinated indebtedness and enter into affiliate transactions. In addition, the 2025 Credit Facility contains financial covenants requiring NCM LLC to maintain a maximum leverage ratio of no greater than 2.25 to 1.00 and a minimum fixed charge coverage ratio of no less than 1.50 to 1.00, each measured on a quarterly basis. The 2025 Credit Facility also includes events of default customary for facilities of this type and upon the occurrence of such events of default, subject to customary cure rights, all outstanding loans under the 2025 Credit Facility may be accelerated and/or the Company’s commitments terminated. The 2025 Credit Facility also contains representations, warranties, and events of defaults customary for this type of facility. As of January 1, 2026, NCM LLC’s fixed charge coverage ratio was 13.5 to 1.0 (versus the required minimum ratio of 1.50 to 1.00) and NCM LLC’s maximum leverage ratio was 0.4 to 1.0 (versus the required ratio of 2.25 to 1.0).

Loan, Security and Guarantee Agreement—On August 7, 2023, NCM LLC entered into a Loan, Security and Guarantee Agreement (the “Revolving Credit Facility 2023”) with CIT Northbridge Credit LLC as agent. The Revolving Credit Facility 2023 was an asset backed line facility where the capacity depends upon NCM LLC’s trade accounts receivable balance, as adjusted for aged balances and other considerations. The maximum availability NCM LLC had access to under the Revolving Credit Facility 2023 was \$55,000,000. The proceeds of the Revolving Credit Facility 2023 could have

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been used for, inter alia, working capital and capital expenditures. The Revolving Credit Facility 2023 was to mature on August 7, 2026. The interest rate under the Revolving Credit Facility 2023 was a base rate of SOFR benchmark plus (i) 3.75% if less than 50% of revolving commitments are utilized or (ii) 4.50% if 50% or more of revolving commitments are utilized (utilizing the average revolver usage for the prior calendar month as a benchmark for this determination). The Revolving Credit Facility 2023 also contained a financial maintenance covenant requiring that the fixed charge coverage ratio ending on the last day of each fiscal month is at least 1.1 to 1.0 during a “Trigger Period.” A Trigger Period began upon (i) an event of default or (ii) if availability was less than the greater of (a) \$5,000,000 and (b) 10% of aggregate revolving commitments. A Trigger Period ended only if (i) no event of default existed for the preceding thirty (30) consecutive days and (ii) availability was greater than both (a) \$5,000,000 and (b) 10% of aggregate revolving commitments. Upon the effectiveness of the Revolving Credit Facility 2023, NCM LLC immediately drew \$10.0 million from the facility, which represented the only amount outstanding under the Revolving Credit Facility 2023 at any time. The Revolving Credit Facility 2023 also contained customary representations, warranties, covenants, events of default, terms and conditions, including limitations on liens, incurrence of debt, mergers and significant asset dispositions.

In connection with entering into the 2025 Credit Facility, NCM LLC repaid the \$10.0 million balance outstanding in full and terminated all commitments under its Revolving Credit Facility 2023, and in connection with this termination, paid a prepayment fee equal to 1% of the total commitment. This resulted in a loss on debt extinguishment of \$1.8 million within the year ended January 1, 2026.

Pre-Chapter 11 Case Debt—The commencement of the Chapter 11 Case constituted an event of default and caused the automatic and immediate acceleration of all debt outstanding under or in respect of, NCM LLC’s Credit Agreements and senior notes. As of August 7, 2023, upon emergence from bankruptcy, all historical debt of NCM LLC was discharged and the historical credit agreements were terminated.

Future Maturities of Borrowings—The scheduled annual maturities on the 2025 Credit Facility as of January 1, 2026 are as follows (in millions):

Year	Amount
2026	\$ —
2027	—
2028	12.0
2029	—
2030	—
Thereafter	—
Total	<u>\$ 12.0</u>

11. SHARE-BASED COMPENSATION

The NCM, Inc. 2020 Omnibus Equity Incentive Plan (the “2020 Plan”) was approved by NCM, Inc.’s stockholders on April 28, 2020 and approved 7,500,000 shares of common stock available for issuance or delivery under the 2020 Plan and an additional 7,500,000 shares of common stock available for issuance or delivery was approved on May 4, 2022. On August 3, 2023, the Company effected a one-for-ten (1:10) reverse stock split of its common stock, par value \$0.01 per share. The reverse stock split, which was authorized by its Board of Directors, was approved by the Company’s stockholders on August 2, 2023. The reverse stock split reduced the number of outstanding shares of the Company’s 2020 Plan to 1,500,000. NCM, Inc.’s stockholders approved an additional 12,000,000 shares of common stock available for issuance or delivery under the 2020 Plan on November 2, 2023.

The Company began issuing shares under the 2020 Plan in the second quarter of 2020. The 2020 Plan replaced NCM, Inc.’s 2016 Equity Incentive Plan (the “2016 Plan”), which replaced the 2007 Equity Incentive Plan (the “2007 Plan”). The 2020 Plan also includes 2,388,302 shares related to the number of shares reserved for issuance under the 2016 Plan that remained available for grant as of the effective date of the 2020 Plan and the number of shares subject to awards granted under the 2007 Plan as of the effective date of the 2020 Plan, which can become available for grant again upon expiration, termination, cancellation or forfeiture of the original award. As of January 1, 2026, 4,594,395 shares remain available for future grants (assuming 100% achievement of targets on performance-based restricted stock). The types of awards that may be granted under the 2020 Plan include stock options, stock appreciation rights, restricted stock, restricted stock units or other stock based awards. Certain option and share awards provide for accelerated vesting if there is a change in control, as defined in the 2016 Plan and 2020 Plan. Upon vesting of the restricted stock awards or exercise of options, NCM LLC will issue common membership units to the Company equal to the number of shares of the Company’s common stock represented by such awards.

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Compensation Cost—The Company recognized \$9.3 million, \$12.2 million and \$4.5 million for the years ended January 1, 2026, December 26, 2024 and December 28, 2023, respectively, of share-based compensation expense within “Network operating costs”, “Selling and marketing costs” and “Administrative and other costs” in the Consolidated Statements of Operations as shown in the table below (in millions):

	Years ended		
	January 1, 2026	December 26, 2024	December 28, 2023
Share-based compensation costs included in network operating costs.....	\$ 0.3	\$ 0.5	\$ 0.3
Share-based compensation costs included in selling and marketing costs.....	1.2	1.7	0.7
Share-based compensation costs included in administrative and other costs.....	7.8	10.0	3.5
Total share-based compensation costs.....	<u>\$ 9.3</u>	<u>\$ 12.2</u>	<u>\$ 4.5</u>

During the years ended January 1, 2026, December 26, 2024 and December 28, 2023, \$0.0 million, \$0.0 million and \$0.1 million was capitalized, respectively, in a corresponding manner to the capitalization of employee’s salaries for capitalized labor. As of January 1, 2026, there was less than \$1.0 million of unrecognized compensation cost related to unvested options, which will be recognized over a remaining period of 0.6 years. As of January 1, 2026, unrecognized compensation cost related to restricted stock units was approximately \$7.8 million, which will be recognized over a weighted average remaining period of 1.5 years.

Stock Options—The Company granted stock options during 2025 and 2023 that remain unvested as of January 1, 2026. A portion of the stock options awarded were granted with an exercise price equal to the closing market price of NCM, Inc. common stock on the date the Company’s Board of Directors approved the grant. The remaining portion of stock options awarded were granted with an exercise price in excess of the closing market price of NCM, Inc. common stock on the date the Company’s Board of Directors approved the grant. All options have either 10-year or 15-year contractual terms. The fair value of each option award is estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option pricing valuation model that uses the assumptions noted in the table below. Expected volatilities are based on implied volatilities from traded options on the Company’s stock, historical volatility of the Company’s stock and other factors. The Company uses historical data to estimate option exercise and employee termination within the valuation model. The expected term of options granted was developed based on historical and peer company data and represents the period of time that options granted are expected to be outstanding. The expected term of the options granted were adjusted to include the Company’s cost of equity in order to incorporate the impact of the option’s premium price and simulate a lattice model which resulted in an expected term in excess of the contractual term of 10 years. The risk-free rate for periods within the contractual life of the option is based on the U.S. Treasury yield curve in effect at the time of grant. There were no option awards granted for the year ended December 26, 2024. The following assumptions were used in the valuation of the options for the year ended January 1, 2026 and December 28, 2023:

	Year Ended		
	January 1, 2026	December 26, 2024	December 28, 2023
Expected term (in years).....	38.4	—	6.6
Risk free interest rate.....	4.4%	—%	4.1%
Expected volatility.....	64.0%	—	86.4%
Dividend yield.....	1.9%	—%	—%

A summary of option award activity as of January 1, 2026, and changes during the year then ended are presented below:

	Options	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Life (in years)	Aggregate Intrinsic Value (in millions)
Outstanding as of December 26, 2024.....	234,779	\$ 42.50	6.3	\$ —
Granted.....	250,000	\$ 35.00	—	\$ —
Forfeited.....	—	\$ —	—	\$ —
Expired.....	—	\$ —	—	\$ —
Outstanding as of January 1, 2026.....	<u>484,779</u>	\$ 38.63	7.4	\$ —
Exercisable as of January 1, 2026.....	226,446	\$ 42.77	5.2	\$ —
Vested and expected to vest as of January 1, 2026.....	234,688	\$ 42.50	5.3	\$ —

NATIONAL CINEMEDIA, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Restricted Stock Units—Under the non-vested stock program, common stock of the Company may be granted at no cost to officers, independent directors and employees, subject to requisite service and/or financial performance targets. As such restrictions lapse, the award vests in that proportion. The participants are entitled to dividend equivalents, although the sale and transfer of such shares is prohibited and the shares are subject to forfeiture during the restricted period. Additionally, the accrued dividend equivalents are subject to forfeiture during the vesting period should the underlying units not vest. As of January 1, 2026, December 26, 2024 and December 28, 2023, accrued dividend equivalents totaled \$0.2 million, \$0.0 million and \$0.3 million, respectively and during the years ended January 1, 2026, December 26, 2024 and December 28, 2023, the Company paid \$0.1 million, \$0.3 million and \$0.5 million, respectively, for dividend equivalents upon vesting of the restricted stock units. During the year ended January 1, 2026, the Company issued time-based restricted stock units to its employees which vest over a three-year period with one-third vesting on each anniversary of the date of grant and performance-based restricted stock units which vest following a cumulative three-year measurement period to the extent that the Company achieves specified non-GAAP targets at the end of the measurement period. Certain other vesting periods have also been used. The Company also grants restricted stock units to its non-employee directors that vest after approximately one year. In the year ended December 26, 2024, the Company issued grants to certain employees under a management incentive plan related to the Company's emergence from the Chapter 11 Case. The structure and size of these grants differed from historical grants. The grants consisted of time-based restricted stock units which vest over a three-year period, with 30% vesting at the end of fiscal year 2024, 7.5% vesting each quarter of 2025 and 10% vesting each quarter of 2026. The grants also included performance-based restricted stock units which vest in three equal tranches, each with a one-year measurement period to the extent that the Company achieves specified non-GAAP targets at the end of each measurement period and market-based restricted stock units which vest at any point before the end of 2026 to the extent that the Company achieves specified shareholder value prior to the end of the measurement period.

All restricted stock units will be settled in shares of the Company's common stock. The grant date fair value of the time-based and performance-based restricted stock units is based on the closing market price on NCM, Inc. common stock on the date of grant. An annual forfeiture rate of 2-6% was estimated to reflect the potential separation of employees. The grant date fair value of the market-based restricted stock units was calculated using a Monte Carlo simulation model. This model considers various subjective assumptions as inputs which involve inherent uncertainties and the application of our judgment as it relates to market volatilities, the historical volatility of our stock price, risk-free rates and expected life. The RSU awards include the right to receive dividend equivalents, subject to vesting. The weighted average grant date fair value of non-vested stock was \$5.53, \$3.51 and \$3.42 for the years ended January 1, 2026, December 26, 2024 and December 28, 2023, respectively. The total fair value of awards that vested during the years ended January 1, 2026, December 26, 2024 and December 28, 2023 was \$5.7 million, \$9.6 million and \$7.1 million, respectively.

A summary of restricted stock unit activity as of January 1, 2026, and changes during the year then ended are presented below:

	Number of Restricted Stock Units (1)	Weighted Average Grant-Date Fair Value
Non-vested balance as of December 26, 2024.....	5,436,562	\$ 4.02
Granted.....	1,521,936	\$ 5.53
Vested (2).....	(1,740,331)	\$ 4.45
Forfeited.....	(262,417)	\$ 5.18
Non-vested balance as of January 1, 2026.....	<u>4,955,750</u>	<u>\$ 4.55</u>

(1) Includes unvested 3,053,509 shares of performance-based restricted stock units as of December 26, 2024, 515,171 shares granted during the year and 121,288 shares forfeited during the year, resulting in 2,886,077 unvested shares of performance-based restricted stock units as of January 1, 2026.

(2) Includes 88,637 vested shares that were withheld to cover tax obligations and were subsequently canceled.

The above table reflects performance-based restricted stock granted at 100% achievement of performance conditions and as such does not reflect the maximum or minimum number of shares of performance-based restricted stock contingently issuable. No shares of the performance-based restricted stock will be issued if the specified targets are not met. As of January 1, 2026, the total number of performance-based restricted stock units that are ultimately expected to vest, after consideration of expected forfeitures and current projections of estimated vesting of performance-based restricted stock units is 215,364 shares.

NATIONAL CINEMEDIA, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

12. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS

The Company sponsors the NCM 401(k) Profit Sharing Plan (the “Plan”) under Section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, for the benefit of substantially all full-time employees. The Plan provides that participants may contribute up to 20% of their compensation, subject to Internal Revenue Service limitations. Employee contributions are invested in various investment funds based upon election made by the employee. The Company made discretionary contributions of \$0.4 million, \$0.2 million and \$0.0 million during the years ended January 1, 2026, December 26, 2024 and December 28, 2023, respectively. In response to the COVID-19 Pandemic and Chapter 11 Case, the Company temporarily suspended its match of a portion of employees 401(k) contributions effective April 2020 through December 28, 2023, which was reinstated at the beginning of 2024.

13. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Legal Actions—The Company is subject to claims and legal actions in the ordinary course of business. The Company believes such claims will not have a material effect, individually and in aggregate, on its financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

Operating Commitments-Facilities—The Company has entered into operating lease agreements for its corporate headquarters and other regional offices. The Company has right-of-use (“ROU”) assets of \$8.8 million and short-term and long-term lease liabilities of \$1.5 million and \$9.3 million, respectively, on the balance sheet as of January 1, 2026 for all material leases with terms longer than twelve months. As of December 26, 2024 the Company had ROU assets of \$12.2 million and short-term and long-term lease liabilities of \$1.7 million and \$12.5 million, respectively, for all material leases with terms longer than twelve months. These balances are included within “Other assets”, “Other current liabilities” and “Long-term lease liabilities”, respectively, on the audited Consolidated Balance Sheets. As of January 1, 2026, the Company had a weighted average remaining lease term of 7.5 years on these leases.

The Company has also entered into certain short-term leases with a term of less than one year. These leases are not included within the Company’s ROU assets or lease liabilities due to the Company’s election of the practical expedient in ASC 842-20-25-2 for short-term leases.

On December 8, 2025, the Company entered into a lease modification with the landlord for the Company's headquarter office space in Centennial, Colorado. The commencement of the new leased asset and the termination of the current leased asset are contingent upon landlord-controlled construction and the associated timing of completion is uncertain as of January 1, 2026. Once complete, the Company will lease the new premises for a term of 11 years and will vacate the current premises prior to the original end date of June 2028.

During the year ended January 1, 2026, December 26, 2024 and December 28, 2023, the Company recognized the following components of total lease cost (in millions). These costs are presented within “Selling and marketing costs” and “Administrative and other costs” within the audited Consolidated Statements of Operations depending upon the nature of the use of the facility.

	Years Ended		
	January 1, 2026	December 26, 2024	December 28, 2023
Operating lease cost.....	\$ 2.3	\$ 2.3	\$ 3.2
Variable lease cost.....	0.2	0.1	0.5
Total lease cost.....	<u>\$ 2.5</u>	<u>\$ 2.4</u>	<u>\$ 3.7</u>

The Company made lease payments for the year ended January 1, 2026, December 26, 2024 and December 28, 2023 of \$2.4 million, \$2.0 million and \$3.6 million, respectively. These payments are included within cash flows from operating activities within the audited Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows. The minimum lease payments under noncancellable operating leases as of January 1, 2026 were as follows (in millions):

Year	Minimum Lease Payments
2026.....	\$ 1.9
2027.....	1.9
2028.....	1.6
2029.....	1.2
2030.....	1.2
Thereafter.....	4.3
Total.....	12.1
Less: Imputed interest on future lease payments.....	(1.3)
Total lease liability as of January 1, 2026 per the Consolidated Balance Sheet.....	<u>\$ 10.8</u>

NATIONAL CINEMEDIA, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

When measuring the ROU assets and lease liabilities recorded, the Company utilized its incremental borrowing rate in order to determine the present value of the lease payments as the leases do not provide an implicit rate. The Company used the rate of interest that it would have paid to borrow on a collateralized basis over a similar term for an amount equal to the lease payments in a similar economic environment. As of January 1, 2026, the Company's weighted average annual discount rate used to establish the ROU assets and lease liabilities was 3.7%.

Operating Commitments - ESAs and Affiliate Agreements—The Company has entered into long-term ESAs with the ESA Parties and multi-year agreements with certain network affiliates, or third-party theater circuits. The ESAs and network affiliate agreements grant NCM LLC exclusive rights in their theaters to sell advertising, subject to limited exceptions. The Company recognizes intangible assets upon issuance of membership units to the ESA Parties in accordance with NCM LLC's Common Unit Adjustment Agreement and upfront cash payments to the affiliates for the contractual rights to provide the Company's services within their theaters as further discussed within Note 6—*Intangible Assets*. These ESAs and network affiliate agreements are considered leases under ASC 842 once the asset is identified and the period of control is determined upon the scheduling of the showtimes by the exhibitors, typically one week prior to the showtime. As such, the leases are considered short-term in nature, specifically less than one month. Within ASC 842, leases with terms of less than one month are exempt from the majority of the accounting and disclosure requirements, including disclosure of short-term lease expense. No ROU assets or lease liabilities were recognized for these agreements and no change to the balance sheet presentation of the intangible assets was necessary. However, the amortization of these intangible assets is considered lease expense and is presented within 'Amortization expense' within the Consolidated Statement of Operations. The Company recorded \$18.8 million, \$23.4 million and \$16.7 million in amortization of these intangible assets in the years ended January 1, 2026, December 26, 2024 and December 28, 2023, respectively.

In consideration for NCM LLC's access to the ESA Parties' and network affiliates' theater attendees for on-screen advertising and use of lobbies and other space within the exhibitors' theaters for the LEN and lobby promotions, the ESA Parties and network affiliates receive payments based either upon number of attendees (pre or post-showtime), a revenue share, a fee per screen or digital screen or a combination, including a minimum revenue guarantee per attendee. Many of these agreements contain increases annually or every five years to the respective fee structures or guaranteed minimums, either per patron, per theater and/or per digital screen in a range from 2% to 8% depending upon the underlying agreement. The theater access fee paid in the aggregate to Cinemark cannot be less than 12% of NCM LLC's aggregate advertising revenue (as defined in the ESA), or it will be adjusted upward to reach this minimum payment. As of January 1, 2026, December 26, 2024 and December 28, 2023, the Company had no liabilities recorded for the minimum payment, as the theater access fee was in excess of the minimum. The Company does not owe any theater access fees or revenue share when the theaters are not displaying the Company's pre-show or when the Company does not have access to the theaters. The digital screen fee is calculated based upon average screens in use during each month. As part of the AMC 2025 Agreement, the Company will modernize certain lobbies within AMC's theaters, which will require the Company to expend refurbishment costs upon identification of a third-party vendor.

As part of the network affiliate agreements entered into in the ordinary course of business under which the Company sells advertising for display in various network affiliate theater chains, the Company has agreed to certain minimum revenue guarantees on a per attendee basis. If a network affiliate achieves the attendance set forth in their respective agreement, the Company has guaranteed minimum revenue for the network affiliate per attendee if the amount paid under the revenue share arrangement is less than the guaranteed amount. As of January 1, 2026, the maximum potential amount of future payments the Company could be required to make pursuant to the minimum revenue guarantees is \$315.7 million over the remaining terms of the network affiliate agreements, contingent upon the achievement of network affiliate minimum attendance thresholds. These minimum guarantees relate to various affiliate agreements ranging in term from one to nine years, prior to any renewal periods of which some are at the option of the Company. During the year ended January 1, 2026, December 26, 2024 and December 28, 2023, the Company paid \$1.0 million, \$0.1 million and \$0.0 million, respectively, related to these minimum guarantees. As of January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, the Company had \$1.1 million and \$0.7 million, respectively, in liabilities recorded within "Accounts payable" in the Consolidated Balance Sheets for these obligations, as such guarantees are less than the expected share of revenue paid to the affiliate.

14. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

Non-Recurring Measurements—Certain assets are measured at fair value on a non-recurring basis. These assets are not measured at fair value on an ongoing basis but are subject to fair value adjustments in certain circumstances. These assets include long-lived assets, intangible assets, cost and equity method investments and borrowings.

Long-Lived Assets, Intangible Assets and Other Investments—As described in Note 1—*Basis of Presentation and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies*, the Company regularly reviews long-lived assets (primarily property, plant and equipment), intangible assets, investments accounted for under the cost or equity method and notes receivable for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amounts of the assets may not be fully recoverable.

NATIONAL CINEMEDIA, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

When the estimated fair value is determined to be lower than the carrying value of the asset, an impairment charge is recorded to write the asset down to its estimated fair value.

Other investments consisted of the following (in millions):

	As of	
	January 1, 2026	December 26, 2024
Investment in AC JV, LLC.....	\$ 0.8	\$ 0.8
Other investments.....	7.3	3.0
Total.....	<u>\$ 8.1</u>	<u>\$ 3.8</u>

The investment in AC JV was initially valued using comparative market multiples. The other investments were recorded based upon the fair value of the services provided in exchange for the investment. Refer to Note 1—*Basis of Presentation and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies* for more details. As the inputs to the determination of fair value are based upon non-identical assets and use significant unobservable inputs, they have been classified as Level 3 in the fair value hierarchy. The increase in ‘Other investments’ from December 26, 2024 to January 1, 2026 is due to a \$2.0 million cash investment in an entertainment company and advertising services performed in exchange for equity in various companies. During the years ended January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024, no observable price changes or impairments have been recorded as a result of the Company’s qualitative assessment of identified events or changes in the circumstances of the remaining investments, which resulted in the investments totaling \$8.1 million as of January 1, 2026.

Borrowings—The carrying amount of the 2025 Credit Facility is considered a reasonable estimate of fair value due to its floating-rate terms.

Recurring Measurements—All current assets and liabilities are estimated to approximate their fair value due to the short-term nature of these balances. There were no Company assets and liabilities measured on a recurring basis as of January 1, 2026, including cash equivalents or marketable securities. The fair values of the Company’s assets and liabilities measured on a recurring basis as of December 26, 2024 pursuant to ASC 820-10 *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures* are as follows (in millions):

	Fair Value As of December 26, 2024	Fair Value Measurements at Reporting Date Using		
		Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
ASSETS:				
Cash equivalents (1)	\$ 41.2	\$ 41.2	\$ —	\$ —
Short-term marketable securities (2)	0.1	—	0.1	—
Total assets	<u>\$ 41.3</u>	<u>\$ 41.2</u>	<u>\$ 0.1</u>	<u>\$ —</u>

(1) *Cash Equivalents*—The Company’s cash equivalents are carried at estimated fair value. Cash equivalents consist of money market accounts which the Company has classified as Level 1 given the active market for these accounts.

(2) *Short-Term and Long-Term Marketable Securities*—The carrying amount and fair value of the marketable securities are equivalent since the Company accounts for these instruments at fair value. The Company’s certificates of deposit are valued at cost plus interest. The inputs in the valuation are classified as Level 1 if there is an active market for these securities; however, if an active market does not exist, the inputs are recorded at a lower level in the fair value hierarchy. The value of the certificates of deposit is derived from contractual terms. The inputs to the valuation pricing models are observable, and as such are generally classified as Level 2 in the fair value hierarchy.

NATIONAL CINEMEDIA, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The amortized cost basis, aggregate fair value and maturities of the marketable securities the Company held as of December 26, 2024 are as follows:

	As of December 26, 2024		
	Amortized Cost Basis (in millions)	Aggregate Fair Value (in millions)	Maturities (1) (in years)
MARKETABLE SECURITIES:			
Short-term certificates of deposit	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1	0.1
Total short-term marketable securities	0.1	0.1	
Total marketable securities.....	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1	

(1) *Maturities*— Securities available for sale include obligations with various contractual maturity dates some of which are greater than one year. The Company considers the securities to be liquid and convertible to cash within 30 days.

15. VALUATION ACCOUNT

The Company's valuation allowance on deferred tax assets for the year ended January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024 was as follows (in millions):

	Years ended	
	January 1, 2026	December 26, 2024
VALUATION ALLOWANCE ON DEFERRED TAX ASSETS:		
Balance at beginning of period	\$ 169.1	\$ 146.0
Valuation allowance added (1)	—	23.1
Valuation allowance reversed.....	(8.4)	—
Balance at end of period	\$ 160.7	\$ 169.1

(1) The changes within the valuation allowance during the year ended January 1, 2026 and December 26, 2024 and relate to its deferred tax assets which the Company determined it is more-likely-than-not it will not be able to realize before they expire.

16. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Dividend—On February 26, 2026, the Company declared a cash dividend of \$0.03 per share (approximately \$2.8 million in the aggregate) on each share of the Company's common stock (not including outstanding restricted stock units which will accrue dividends until the shares vest) to stockholders of record on March 9, 2026 to be paid on March 23, 2026.

Share Repurchase Program—Subsequent to the year ended January 1, 2026, in accordance with the stock repurchase plan approved on March 18, 2024 by the Company's Board of Directors, 209,757 shares were repurchased on the open market for \$0.8 million. In accordance with *ASC 505—Equity*, these shares were retired and any excess over par value paid was recorded as a reduction to retained earnings.

Item 9. Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure

Not applicable.

Item 9A. Controls and Procedures

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures. The Company maintains disclosure controls and procedures as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”), that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the Company’s reports filed under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC’s rules and forms, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to management, including the Company’s Chief Executive Officer (principal executive officer) and Chief Financial Officer (principal financial officer), as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

Management, with the participation of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Chief Financial Officer (CFO), performed an evaluation of the effectiveness of the Company’s disclosure controls and procedures pursuant to Rule 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) of the Exchange Act as of January 1, 2026, the end of the period covered by this Annual Report on Form 10-K. Based on such evaluation, the CEO and CFO concluded that the Company’s disclosure controls and procedures were effective. In accordance with guidance issued by the Securities and Exchange Commission allowing for the exclusion of an assessment of an acquired business’s internal control over financial reporting from the registrant’s final assessment of internal control over financial reporting for the fiscal year in which the acquisition occurred, management has excluded Spotlight Cinema Networks from our 2025 evaluation. Spotlight Cinema Networks was acquired on November 14, 2025 and constituted 2.7% of total assets as of January 1, 2026 and 1.0% of total revenue for the year ended January 1, 2026.

Management’s Annual Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting. Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f). Management evaluated the design and operating effectiveness of the Company’s internal control over financial reporting based on the framework in *Internal Control- Integrated Framework (2013)* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). Based on that evaluation, the Company’s management concluded that the Company’s internal control over financial reporting as of January 1, 2026 was effective.

In designing and evaluating our disclosure controls and procedures, management recognizes that any control, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance of achieving the desired control objectives. Due to the inherent limitations in all control systems, no evaluation of controls can provide absolute assurance that misstatements due to error or fraud will not occur or that all control issues and instances of fraud, if any, within the Company have been detected.

The effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of January 1, 2026 has been audited by Grant Thornton LLP, our independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report, which is included in “Item 8 — Financial Statements and Supplementary Data.”

Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting. There were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the quarter ended January 1, 2026 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

Board of Directors and Stockholders National CineMedia, Inc.

Opinion on internal control over financial reporting

We have audited the internal control over financial reporting of National CineMedia, Inc. (a Delaware corporation) and subsidiaries (the “Company”) as of January 1, 2026, based on criteria established in the 2013 *Internal Control—Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (“COSO”). In our opinion, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of January 1, 2026, based on criteria established in the 2013 *Internal Control—Integrated Framework* issued by COSO.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (“PCAOB”), the consolidated financial statements of the Company as of and for the year ended January 1, 2026, and our report dated February 26, 2026 expressed an unqualified opinion on those financial statements.

Basis for opinion

The Company’s management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in the accompanying *Management’s Annual Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting* (“Management’s Report”). Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company’s internal control over financial reporting based on our audit. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk, and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Our audit of, and opinion on, the Company’s internal control over financial reporting does not include the internal control over financial reporting of Spotlight Cinema Networks, LLC (“Spotlight”), a wholly owned subsidiary, whose financial statements reflect total assets and revenues constituting 2.7 and 1.0 percent, respectively, of the related consolidated financial statement amounts as of and for the year ended January 1, 2026. As indicated in Management’s Report, Spotlight was acquired during the year ended January 1, 2026. Management’s assertion on the effectiveness of the Company’s internal control over financial reporting excluded internal control over financial reporting of Spotlight.

Definition and limitations of internal control over financial reporting

A company’s internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company’s internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company’s assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

/s/ GRANT THORNTON LLP

Denver, Colorado
February 26, 2026

Item 9B. Other Information

Adoption of 10b5-1 Trading Plans by Our Officers and Directors. Other than as set forth below, during the three months ended January 1, 2026, none of our directors or executive officers adopted or terminated any contract, instruction or written plan for the purchase or sale of securities that was intended to satisfy the affirmative defense conditions of Rule 10b5-1(c) or any "non-Rule 10b5-1 trading arrangement" (as defined in Item 408(c) of Regulation S-K).

On November 17, 2025, Ronnie Ng, our Chief Financial Officer, terminated the written trading plan intended to satisfy the affirmative defense conditions of Rule 10b5-1 under the Exchange Act entered into in December 2024 and amended in August 2025.

Item 9C. Disclosure Regarding Foreign Jurisdictions that Prevent Inspections

None.

PART III

Item 10. Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance

The information required by this item with respect to our directors is incorporated herein by reference from the Company's 2025 Proxy Statement under the heading "Proposal 1- Election of Directors."

The information required by this item regarding our executive officers is set forth in Part I of this Annual Report on Form 10-K under the heading "Information about our Executive Officers" and is incorporated herein by this reference.

Our Board adopted a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics that applies to all of our employees, including our Board of Directors, Chief Executive Officer and principal financial officer. The Code of Business Conduct and Ethics sets forth the Company's conflict of interest policy, records retention policy and policies for protection of the Company's property, business opportunities and proprietary information. Our Code of Business Conduct and Ethics is available free of charge on our website at ncm.com under the tab "Investor Relations—Corporate Governance." We intend to post on our website any amendments to, or waivers from our Code of Business Conduct and Ethics applicable to senior financial executives.

The Company has an insider trading policy, processes and procedures governing transactions in the Company's securities that apply to all Company personnel, including directors, officers, employees and other covered persons. We believe our insider trading policy, processes and procedures are reasonably designed to promote compliance with insider trading laws, rules, regulations and the listing standards applicable to the Company. A copy is filed as Exhibit 19 to this Annual Report on Form 10-K and is available free of charge on our website at ncm.com under the tab "Investor Relations—Corporate Governance."

Item 11. Executive Compensation

The information required by this item regarding compensation of executive officers and directors is incorporated herein by reference from the Proxy Statement under the headings "Compensation of Executive Officers" and "Compensation Committee Report".

Item 12. Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters

For information with respect to the security ownership of directors, executive officers and holders of more than 5% of a class of our voting securities, refer to the Proxy Statement under the heading "Beneficial Ownership," which information is incorporated herein by reference.

For Equity Incentive Plan information, refer to the Proxy Statement under the heading "Equity Compensation Plan," which information is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence

For information with respect to certain relationships and related transactions, refer to the Proxy Statement under the heading "Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions," which information is incorporated herein by reference.

For information with respect to director independence, refer to the Proxy Statement under the heading "Proposal 1- Election of Directors," which information is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 14. Principal Accounting Fees and Services

The information required by this item with respect to principal accounting fees and services is incorporated herein by reference from the Proxy Statement under the heading "Fees Paid to Independent Auditors."

PART IV

Item 15. Exhibits, Financial Statement Schedules

- (a) (1) and (a) (2) Financial statements and financial statement schedules

Refer to Index to Financial Statements on page 49.

- (b) Exhibits

Refer to Exhibit Index, beginning on page 93.

- (c) Financial Statement Schedules

Financial Statement Schedules not included herein have been omitted because they are either not required, not applicable, or the information is otherwise included herein.

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

<u>Exhibit</u>	<u>Ref.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Incorporation by Reference</u>			
			<u>Form</u>	<u>SEC File No.</u>	<u>Exhibit</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>
3.1		The Bylaws, as amended March 17, 2025.	10-Q	001-33296	3.1	5/6/2025
3.2		Second Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation as amended.	10-Q	001-33296	3.1	11/7/2023
3.3		Certificate of Designation Series B Preferred Stock, dated August 7, 2023.	8-K	001-33296	3.1	8/7/2023
4.1	*	Description of the Registrant's Securities				
10.1		National CineMedia, LLC Third Amended and Restated Limited Liability Company Operating Agreement dated as of February 13, 2007, by and among American Multi-Cinema, Inc., Cinemark Media, Inc., Regal CineMedia Holdings, LLC and National CineMedia, Inc., as amended through March 18, 2024.	10-K	001-33296	10.1	3/6/2025
10.2	▲	Amended and Restated Exhibitor Services Agreement dated as of December 26, 2013, by and between National CineMedia, LLC and American Multi-Cinema, Inc.	10-K	001-33296	10.2.4	2/21/2014
10.2.1		First Amendment to Amended and Restated Exhibitor Services Agreement dated as of March 9, 2017, by and between National CineMedia, LLC and American Multi-Cinema, Inc.	8-K	001-33296	10.1	3/15/2017
10.2.2	▲	Second Amended and Restated Exhibitor Services Agreement, dated April 17, 2025, between National CineMedia, LLC, American Multi-Cinema, Inc., Muvico, LLC, and the other parties thereto	10-Q	001-33296	10.1	10/30/2025
10.2.3	▲	Joint Venture Termination and Settlement Agreement, dated April 17, 2025, between American Multi-Cinema, Inc., National CineMedia, LLC, and National CineMedia, Inc.	10-Q	001-33296	10.2	5/6/2025
10.3	▲	Amended and Restated Exhibitor Services Agreement dated as of December 26, 2013, by and between National CineMedia, LLC and Cinemark USA, Inc.	10-K	001-33296	10.3.4	2/21/2014
10.3.1	▲	First Amendment to Amended and Restated Exhibitor Services Agreement dated as of September 17, 2019, by and between National CineMedia, LLC and Cinemark USA, Inc.	8-K	001-33296	10.1	9/17/2019
10.3.2		Second Amendment to Amended and Restated Exhibitor Services Agreement dated as of July 29, 2022, by and between National CineMedia, LLC and Cinemark USA, Inc.	10-Q	001-33296	10.4	8/8/2022
10.4	▲	Common Unit Adjustment Agreement dated as of February 13, 2007, by and among National CineMedia, Inc., National CineMedia, LLC, Regal CineMedia Holdings, LLC, American	8-K	001-33296	10.6	2/16/2007

<u>Exhibit</u>	<u>Ref.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Incorporation by Reference</u>			
			<u>Form</u>	<u>SEC File No.</u>	<u>Exhibit</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>
		Multi-Cinema, Inc., Cinemark Media, Inc., Regal Cinemas, Inc. and Cinemark USA, Inc.				
10.5		Tax Receivable Agreement dated as of February 13, 2007, by and among National CineMedia, Inc., National CineMedia, LLC, Regal CineMedia Holdings, LLC, Cinemark Media, Inc., Regal Cinemas, Inc., American Multi-Cinema, Inc. and Cinemark USA, Inc.	8-K	001-33296	10.7	2/16/2007
10.5.1		Second Amendment to Tax Receivable Agreement effective as of April 29, 2008, by and by and among NCM, Inc. and National CineMedia, LLC and the Founding Members and the ESA Parties, amending the Tax Receivable Agreement dated as of February 13, 2007 and as first amended by the First Amendment to the Tax Receivable Agreement effective as of August 7, 2007.	8-K	001-33296	10.1	5/5/2008
10.6		Second Amended and Restated Software License Agreement dated as of February 13, 2007, by and among American Multi-Cinema, Inc., Regal CineMedia Corporation, Cinemark USA, Inc., Digital Cinema Implementation Partners, LLC and National CineMedia, LLC.	8-K	001-33296	10.9	2/16/2007
10.7		Director Designation Agreement dated as of February 13, 2007, by and among National CineMedia, Inc., American Multi-Cinema, Inc., Cinemark Media, Inc. and Regal CineMedia Holdings, LLC.	8-K	001-33296	10.10	2/16/2007
10.8		Registration Rights Agreement dated as of February 13, 2007, by and among National CineMedia, Inc., American Multi-Cinema, Inc., Regal CineMedia Holdings, LLC and Cinemark Media, Inc.	8-K	001-33296	10.11	2/16/2007
10.9		Management Services Agreement dated as of February 13, 2007, by and among National CineMedia, Inc. and National CineMedia, LLC.	8-K	001-33296	10.12	2/16/2007
10.10		Director Designation Agreement, dated as of August 7, 2023, among National CineMedia, Inc., the Consenting Creditor Designation Committee, and Blantyre Capital Limited.	8-K	001-33296	10.3	8/7/2023
10.11		Loan and Security Agreement, dated as of January 24, 2025, by and among National CineMedia, LLC, as Borrower, the other credit parties party thereto from time to time, and U.S. Bank National Association, as Bank	8-K	001-33296	10.1	1/27/2025
10.11.1		Amendment No. 1 to Loan and Security Agreement, dated as of March 10, 2025, by and between National CineMedia, LLC, as Borrower, and U.S. Bank National Association, as Bank	10-Q	001-33296	10.2	5/6/2025

<u>Exhibit</u>	<u>Ref.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Incorporation by Reference</u>			
			<u>Form</u>	<u>SEC File No.</u>	<u>Exhibit</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>
10.12		Joint Venture Termination and Settlement Agreement, dated June 3, 2023.	10-Q	001-33296	10.6	8/1/2023
10.13	▲	Network Affiliate Transaction Agreement by and between National CineMedia, LLC and Regal Cinemas, Inc, dated June 3, 2023.	10-Q	001-33296	10.5	8/1/2023
10.14		Second Amended and Restated Employment Agreement, dated December 22, 2025, by and between National CineMedia, Inc. and Thomas F. Lesinski+	8-K	001-33296	10.1	12/23/2025
10.15		Employment Agreement dated September 5, 2024 between National CineMedia, Inc. and Ronnie Y. Ng.+	10-Q	001-33296	10.1	11/5/2024
10.16		Amended and Restated Employment Agreement, dated December 22, 2025, by and between National CineMedia, Inc. and Maria Woods+	8-K	001-33296	10.2	12/23/2025
10.17		Form of Indemnification Agreement.+	8-K	001-33296	10.1	2/13/2007
10.18		Form of Indemnification Agreement (August 2018).+	10-Q	001-33296	10.3	8/7/2018
10.19		National CineMedia, Inc. 2016 Equity Incentive Plan.+	S-8	001-33296	4.1	4/29/2016
10.20		National CineMedia, Inc. 2020 Omnibus Incentive Plan.+	8-K	001-33296	10.2	5/1/2020
10.21		First Amendment to the National CineMedia, Inc. 2020 Omnibus Incentive Plan effective as of May 4, 2022.+	8-K	001-33296	10.1	5/9/2022
10.22		Second Amendment to the National CineMedia, Inc. 2020 Omnibus Incentive Plan effective as of November 2, 2023.+	8-K	001-33296	10.1	11/7/2023
10.23		Form of 2019 Stock Option Agreement.+	10-Q	001-33296	10.4	11/4/2019
10.23.1		Form of 2020 Stock Option Agreement.+	10-Q	001-33296	10.5	8/3/2020
10.24		Form of Restricted Stock Unit Agreement under the National CineMedia, Inc. 2020 Omnibus Incentive Plan - Director.+	10-Q	001-33296	10.7	8/3/2020
10.24.1		Form of Restricted Stock Unit Agreement (Time Based) - Emergence Grants.+	8-K	001-33296	10.1	2/2/2024
10.24.2		Form of Restricted Stock Unit Agreement (Performance Based) - Emergence Grants.+	8-K	001-33296	10.2	2/2/2024
10.24.3	*	Form of Restricted Stock Unit Agreement (Time Based).+				
10.24.4	*	Form of Restricted Stock Unit Agreement (Performance Based).+				
19.1	*	Insider Trading Policy				
21.1	*	List of Subsidiaries.				
23.1	*	Consent of Deloitte & Touche LLP.				

<u>Exhibit</u>	<u>Ref.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Incorporation by Reference</u>			
			<u>Form</u>	<u>SEC File No.</u>	<u>Exhibit</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>
23.2	*	Consent of Grant Thornton LLP.				
24.1	*	Powers of Attorney of National CineMedia, Inc.				
31.1	*	Rule 13a-14(a) Certification of Chief Executive Officer.				
31.2	*	Rule 13a-14(a) Certification of Chief Financial Officer.				
32.1	**	Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350.				
32.2	**	Certification of Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350.				
97.1		Incentive Compensation Recoupment Policy	10-K	001-33296	97.1	3/18/2024
101.SCH	*	Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema With Embedded Linkbase Documents.				
104	*	Cover Page Interactive Data File (formatted as Inline XBRL and contained in Exhibit 101).				

* Filed herewith.

** Furnished herewith.

+ Management contract.

▲ Portions of this exhibit have been omitted in compliance with Item 601 of Regulation S-K

Item 16. Form 10-K Summary

Not applicable.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

NATIONAL CINEMEDIA, INC.
(Registrant)

Date: February 26, 2026

/s/ Thomas F. Lesinski
Thomas F. Lesinski
Chief Executive Officer and Director
(Principal Executive Officer)

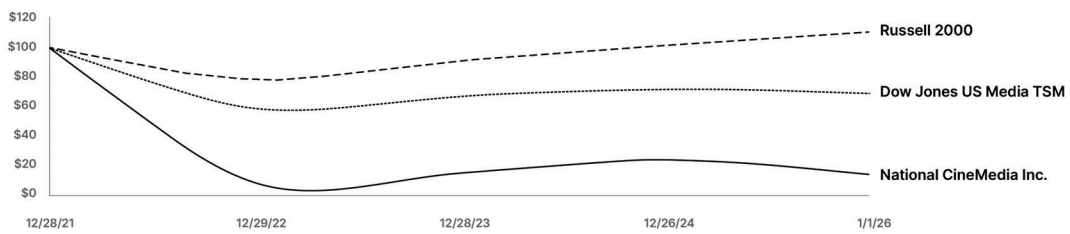
Stock Performance Graph

The following graph compares the cumulative total shareholder return on the common stock of the Company (including dividends paid) for the period December 28, 2021 through January 1, 2026 with the Russell 2000 Index and the Dow Jones Global United States (All) Media SS.

The comparisons in the graph below are based upon historical data and are not indicative of, or intended to forecast, future performance of our common stock.

Comparison of 5 Year Cummulative Total Return*

Among National CineMedia Inc., the Russell 2000 Index, and the Dow Jones US Media Index



*\$100 invested on 12/28/21 in stock or 12/28/21 in index, including reinvestment of dividends
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CORPORATE INFORMATION

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Centennial, CO 80111
303.792.3600 | ncm.com

Stock Information

Traded on the **NASDAQ Global Select Market**
under the symbol **NCMI**

Investor Relations

Phone: 800.844.0935
Email: investors@ncm.com

Transfer Agent & Registrar

Computershare
P.O. Box 505008
Louisville, KY 40233-9814
computershare.com/investor

Form 10-K

A copy of our Annual Report on Form 10-K and all exhibits thereto, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, can be obtained from our website (investor.ncm.com) under the tab "Financials > SEC Filings". These reports are also available free of charge by written request to the below address:

NCM, Inc.
ATTN: Investor Relations
6300 S. Syracuse Way, Suite 300
Centennial, CO 80111

Code of Business Conduct & Ethics

Our Code of Business Conduct and Ethics, and our other governance documents, are available free of charge on our website (investor.ncm.com) under the tab "Governance > Corporate Governance."

Annual Meeting

National CineMedia, Inc. stockholders are invited to attend our annual meeting. The meeting will be held at the following venue on the date announced within our Proxy Statement for the 2026 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

6300 S. Syracuse Way, Suite 300
Centennial, CO 80111

All trademarks are the exclusive property of NCM, its affiliates, or third-party licensors and may not be used without the prior written consent of NCM. This report may contain, or may be deemed to contain "forward-looking statements" that reflect management's current expectations or beliefs regarding future events, including statements regarding guidance and the dividend policy. By their nature, forward-looking statements involve risks, assumptions, and uncertainties because they relate to events and depend on circumstances that may or may not occur in the future. Although the Company believes that the assumptions used in the forward-looking statements are reasonable, any of these assumptions could prove to be inaccurate and, as a result, actual results could differ materially from those expressed or implied in the forward-looking statements. For discussion of some of the important factors that could cause the Company's actual results and performance to differ materially from those expressed in, or implied in the forward-looking statements, please refer to "Item 1A. Risk Factors" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 1, 2026 included herein. The Company undertakes no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements.

CURRENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David E. Glazek
Chair of National CineMedia, Inc.,
Partner at Sunago Capital Partners, LP,
Executive Chairman Turning Point Brands, Inc.,
Adjunct Professor Columbia Business School

Nicholas Bell
CEO of Fanatics Live

Juliana F. Hill
Former Senior Vice President of Liquidity
& Asset Management of iHeartMedia, Inc.

Kelly Campbell Kotzman
Former President of Peacock and Hulu

Thomas F. Lesinski
CEO of National CineMedia, Inc.

Joe Marchese
General Partner Human Ventures
& Casa Komos Brand Group

Simon Mullaly
Partner at Blantyre Capital

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Thomas F. Lesinski
Chief Executive Officer

Ronnie Y. Ng
Chief Financial Officer

Maria V. Woods
Chief Legal Officer & Secretary





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